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## LITERATURE.

*The Story of Sigurd the Volsung and the Fall of the Niblungs.* By William Morris. (London: Ellis & White, 1876.)

THE myth of the dwarf-wrought treasure of gold that was at once the desire and the curse of hero after hero has hitherto interested ourselves less than any other branch of the great Northern stock. Our Old German and Old Norse ancestors, however, were more impressed by its beauty, and more fascinated by its mystery, than by the charm of any coeval story. Of late years the progress of the study of German literature has made most English readers familiar with the outlines of the *Nibelungenlied*, a classic poem collected from sources now but indistinctly traced, and first projected in an epic form by some anonymous Austrian poet of the twelfth century. In this famous work, however, the mythical and half-divine elements have given way to an exquisite bloom of romance, and we are no longer in the presence of the gods, or walking in the arcane world of wonder. The story is confused, the relations of the persons are obscured, the inevitable burden of the curse on the gold is inconsistently lightened or removed. It would be almost obvious, even if no earlier sources of information existed, that this was but the re-telling of a great coherent story in the mouth of a man who had lost the thread of its import. Fortunately, we are not cast upon conjecture. The storehouse of Old Northern poetry and prose, now at length being abundantly thrown open to us, presents us with the same story in its earliest perfect form, and, more than this, it gives us some of the still older material in the midst of which it crystallised. It is in the *Prose Edda* and in the *Völsungasaga* that the story is given in its full coherence and with its full mystical significance, and these narratives have been the sources of Mr. Morris's new poem. But the *Völsungasaga* in a great measure is merely a clear prosaic version of old heroic staves, and when passages of verse occur they bear an appearance of greater antiquity than the text itself; it is of the highest interest, therefore, to find in the Early or Poetic *Edda* of Saemund a great number of the original fragments from which the saga was built up. In some of these the imaginative force is so brilliant and the style so vivid—as in the *Fafnismál*, for instance—that we can hardly doubt that the original invention is before us; in others, as in the *Sigrdrífumál*—where the story of the armed woman found sleeping on

Hindfell is told, but of Sigrdrifa, not of Brynhild—we seem to have reached an antiquity in which the story of the Volsungs was not yet put together, or at least this incident not yet adopted as part of it. In other places the archaic staves present touches of emotion and of scenery so realistic and, as we are apt to think, so modern that it is hard to believe that they are not the artistic product of poets long familiar with ruder phases of the same legend. For instance, readers who are not acquainted with the Icelandic texts will scarcely believe that the picturesque description of the geese clanging out in the home-mead when all else was silent but Gudram moaning over her dead Sigurd, and that other passage in which she compares him to the garlic towering among the grass, are not effective ornaments of the fancy of Mr. Morris, but that they occur in that precise form in the earliest Eddaic staves of the *Gudrúnarkvida*.

To the outline of the story so built up by the saga-writers of Iceland in the days of the decline, out of sources dating from the period of splendid poetic invention, Mr. Morris has very closely kept. Before we leave the subject, we may point out one or two episodes which he has omitted and one or two that he has modified. But, speaking generally, he has simply poured his rich and copious language into the great mould of his Icelandic model. It must not be understood from this that the poem is a translation, or in any way whatsoever undeserving in the highest sense of the praise due to imaginative originality. Merely the framework of narrative is the old time-honoured one. The modern poet treats it in a strictly epic manner. His hero is Sigurd, and from first to last, from the ancestral glory of the house from which he sprang to the final desolation of the house that slew him, all revolves around the sole name and fame of Sigurd. The poem is divided into four books, named after the four persons who successively influence the fortunes of the hero—Sigmund, Regin, Brynhild, and Gudrun.

So familiar is the story to our readers that we need hardly retell it. Suffice it to say that Mr. Morris has treated it in a manner fully worthy of the heroic plan. The style he has adopted is more exalted and less idyllic, more rapturous and less luxurious—in a word, more spirited and more virile than that of any of his earlier works. His first small volume was full of colour and quaint form; it reproduced with unequalled brilliance the strange romantic beauty of minute mediæval architecture and ornament. But there seemed more of art than of nature, more of culture than of inspiration. In *Jason* the whole field of vision was enlarged and humanised; there was less attention paid to detail but more to composition; there was manifest for the first time a power of poetic narrative unrivalled in our time. In the *Earthly Paradise* the same delightful qualities were continued and ripened, but the chord of melancholy languor was dwelt upon almost to excess. In *Love is Enough* higher places of the imagination were reached, and the mystical sadness had a nobler bearing. In the *Story of Sigurd*, however, for the first time, Mr. Morris is no

longer "the idle singer of an empty day," but the interpreter of high desires and ancient heroic hopes as fresh as the dawn of the world and as momentous. The atmosphere of this poem is sharp and cold; a strong sense of the primal virtues, of honour, physical courage, duty to the gods and the kings, tender homage to women, interpenetrates the entire theme and gives it a solemn and archaic air. No lesser genius would have succeeded in winging a level flight through so many thousand lines without sinking to the plane of common men and common thoughts. In this poem, so steeped is the author in the records of the heroic past, so intimately are his sympathies connected with those of the mythical age of which he writes, that we walk with demigods to the close, and have no need to be told of the stature of our companions. In the presence of so much simplicity, and so much art that conceals its art, it is well to point out how supreme is the triumph of the poet in this respect. It is perhaps on this very account, and because the ordinary tone of the poem is so elevated and so heroic, that the passages which allow of pastoral and emotional treatment seem of unequalled charm and delicacy. Where so much is noble, but where all is rapidly-progressing narrative, it is not easy to select a passage for quotation which will not lose its peculiar excellence by being separated from its context. Perhaps the first meeting of Gudrun and Brynhild will bear extraction as well as any other:—

"So they make the yoke-beasts ready, and dight the wains for the way,  
And the maidens gather together, and their bodies they array,  
And gird the laps of the linen, and do on the dark blue gear,  
And bind with the leaves of summer the wandering of their hair:  
Then they drive by dale and acre, o'er heath andholt they wend,  
Till they come to the land of the waters, and thelea by the woodland's end;  
And there is the burg of Brynhild, the white-walled house and long,  
And the garth her fathers fashioned before the days of wrong.  
So fare their feet on the earth by the threshold of the Queen,  
And Brynhild's damsels abide them, for their goings had been seen;  
And the mint and the blossomed woodruff they strew before their feet,  
And their arms of welcome take them, and they kiss them soft and sweet,  
And they go forth into the feast-hall, the many-pillared house;  
Most goodly were its hangings, and its webs wave glorious  
With tales of ancient fathers, and the Swans of the Goths on the sea,  
And weaponed kings on the island, and great deeds yet to be;  
And the host of Odin's Choosers and the boughs of the fateful Oak,  
And the gush of Mimir's Fountain and the Mid-world-Serpent's yoke.  
So therein the maidens enter, but Gudrun all outgoes,  
As over the leaves of the garden shines the many-folded rose:  
Amidst and alone she standeth; in the hall her arms shine white,  
And her hair falls down behind her like a cloak of the sweet-breathed night,  
As she casts her cloak to the earth, and the wind of the flow'ry tide  
Runs over her rippling raiment, and stirs the gold at her side.

But she stands and may scarce move forward, and  
a red flush lighteth her face,  
As her eyes seek out Queen Brynhild in the height  
of the golden place.  
But lo, as a swan on the sea spreads out her wings  
to arise  
From the face of the darksome ocean where the  
isle before her lies,  
So Brynhild arose from her throne and the fashioned  
cloths of blue,  
When she saw the Maid of the Niblungs, and the  
face of Gudrun knew;  
And she gathers the laps of the linen, and they  
meet in the hall, they twain,  
And she taketh her hands in her hands, and  
kisseth her sweet and fain."

The versification will be noted as in some respects peculiar; it depends on accents and not on syllables, each line containing as many cadences as the ordinary alexandrine, but being irregularly anapaestic instead of regularly iambic. There are always six feet in every line, but these are of very varying value, the earlier ones being generally amphimacers, that truly heroic foot which Coleridge compared to the thundering hoofs of a race-horse. Speaking less technically, the measure is a lax ballad-metre, capable of very considerable variety.

While, however, commending the style of this poem, we cannot help feeling that it will present in many places grave difficulties to the general reader. In no previous work has Mr. Morris adopted so consistent an archaism in language and phrase. The long study of Icelandic literature, too, has enamoured him of the periphrases for the gods, gold, the sea, and other objects of constant reference, which are so curious a feature of that language. To meet with the same peculiarities in a volume totally unannotated will, we are afraid, give *The Story of Sigurd* an air of pedantry from which its substance is wholly free. For instance, when we read that Volsung and his sons

"Ran swift o'er Aegir's acre,"

it is not every one of us that may happen to remember that Aegir was the husband of the giantess Ran, goddess of the sea. It is quite another thing for a poet to say that his heroes rushed over the fields of Poseidon, for long custom has made an acquaintance with the elements of Greek mythology a necessity of ordinary culture; we are not yet so well instructed about the deities of our own forefathers. So much for phrases; the language of Mr. Morris is hardly less learned. He uses "eyen" for "eyes," "fowl" for "birds," and "learn" in the awkward, old-fashioned transitive sense of "teach," and this not once or twice, but constantly. Mr. Morris seems to maintain much the same attitude towards ancient speech that Spenser did when he was writing the *Shepherd's Calendar* and the *Faery Queen*. It is an attitude worthy of a master of language, and not for a moment to be confounded with the mock-archaism of a Chatterton or a Shenstone, but it is distinctly a position of danger.

We have no space left to dwell on the points in which Mr. Morris has seen fit to deviate slightly from the original narrative. The most important seems to be the omission of that relationship which connected Atli with his victims, the Niblungs. In the poem before us, Atli's rage is an almost purposeless greed of gold; in the *Edda*, on

the other hand, he is represented as being a son of Budli, and therefore brother to Brynhild. In the short prose story of the "Drap Niflunga" it is distinctly represented that dissension arose because Atli charged the Niblungs with having caused Brynhild's death. The hand of Gudrun is, according to this version, used as a means of reconciliation, and she stirs up Atli to fresh vengeance that her own wrongs may be revenged. We are inclined to think that Mr. Morris, by casting aside this account, has deprived himself of a valuable connecting link in the chain of retribution.

EDMUND W. GOSSE.

*Life of William, Earl of Shelburne.* By Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice. Vol. III., 1776-1805. (London: Macmillan & Co., 1876.)

THE interest raised by Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice's volumes rises still higher in this, the concluding instalment of his ancestor's biography. Not only do the events among which Shelburne moved acquire a greater importance, but he himself grows amid them, and develops qualities which even his past services to the State hardly led us to expect.

The great historical fact of the century was the change—call it by whatever party name you will—from Whig government to Liberal government, which received the sanction of the nation in the elections of 1784. The new principles, the predominance of which was interrupted for a time by the horror caused by the atrocities of the French Revolution, rested on the substitution of popular support for the favour of an aristocratic clique, and of political and economical science for the influence of wealth and station. Of the three men who were successively at the head of this movement, Chatham, Shelburne, and Pitt, Shelburne had most distinctly grasped its tendencies, and it was probably for that very reason that he occupied a less conspicuous place than the others in its direction. Like Bacon, he saw too far into the politics of coming generations to be very successful in directing those of his own day, and as his biographer shows, his brief Ministry, magnificent as its achievements and promises were, broke down quite as much from the refusal of his own partisans to follow him as from the overwhelming numbers of the coalition which opposed him.

Shelburne's superiority of mind appears in his treatment of every subject which he handled. Even after the publication of the *Wealth of Nations*, it is surprising how thoroughly the doctrine of Free-trade had entered into the very substance of his thoughts. Such words as the following seem to have strayed out of some speech of Richard Cobden:—

"What then," he said in 1783 (vol. iii. p. 347), "is the result of this part of the treaty? Why, this: you have given America, with whom every call under heaven urges you to stand on the footing of brethren, a share in a trade the monopoly of which you sordidly preserved to yourselves, at the loss of the enormous sum of 750,000*l.* Monopolies, some way or other, are ever justly punished. They forbid rivalry, and rivalry is of the very essence of the well-being of trade. This seems to be the aera of Protestantism in trade. . . . I avow that monopoly is always unwise; but if there is any nation under heaven which ought to be the first to

reject monopoly, it is the English. Situated as we are between the Old World and the New, and between southern and northern Europe, all we ought to covet upon earth is free-trade, and fair equality. With more industry, with more enterprise, with more capital than any trading nation upon earth, it ought to be our constant cry, 'let every market be open, let us meet our rivals fairly, and we ask no more.'"

Nor did he forget the claims of the poor in the claims of the commercial classes. He advocated (iii. 436) a reform of the Poor Laws, a limitation of ale-houses, the establishment of County Courts for the recovery of small debts, and the adoption of a system of unsectarian education.

Shelburne's superiority is no less manifest in his constitutional views. Indebted as he was to French thinkers for many of the opinions which he held, no man ever had less of the French fault of expecting to govern by the proclamation of abstract principles, or of the English fault, so glaring in Burke, of worshipping that which is, simply because it exists. "In grand national points," he said (iii. 13), "I shall never be directed by the opinions of lawyers, nor will I go to Westminster Hall to inquire whether or not the Constitution is in danger." For him the Constitution was based, not on a balance of powers, but on a variety of duties. He knew the weak point of every one of the component parts of the State too well to idolise it. Public opinion was not likely to be regarded as infallible by the man who told the story of the farmer who at the same time wanted peace with America and the vindication of the right to tax America; while he had little respect for a House of Commons of which the majority was composed of pensioners and contractors; for a House of Lords which remained impervious to his most argumentative conclusions; or for a King who alternately spoke of him as the vilest of scoundrels and as an indispensable Minister. But he thought that the best remedy was to urge on everyone to do his duty. The King, the House of Lords, the House of Commons, and the popular voice could each do something in the way of improvement. Having no fear of the people, he welcomed the Yorkshire petition which frightened Lord Rockingham; he supported Dunning's celebrated resolution that the influence of the Crown ought to be diminished, at the time when the King was the great organiser of corruption; while, on the other hand, he urged on the House of Lords to intervene to save the nation from a House of Commons which was in the hands of placemen and contractors; and he talked of the impossibility of treating the King of England merely as a King of the Mahrattas, nominated by a body of powerful nobles and kept aloof from affairs. Yet even when he defended the prerogative of the Crown most warmly he distinctly showed that if he did not regard the King, like the Whig potentates, as an enemy to be guarded against, he placed his respect on the barest grounds of expediency.

"The great advantage of Monarchy in the English Constitution was," Shelburne said (iii. 311), "that it trusted to the Crown the secrets which must necessarily attend all negotiations with foreign Powers. He could easily conceive,

he said, a case in which the people of this country might speak to the Crown in such language as this:—"Sire, we called in the aid of your illustrious family to save us from Popery and arbitrary power. We have for three ages reaped the benefits of their attention to our interests and welfare, but, not thinking that Monarchy is any longer essential to our security, freedom, and happiness, we are determined to do all the business of the Crown ourselves; and, therefore, with many thanks for your care and kindness, we make you our bow, and entreat you to relinquish the trust." He could conceive all this; but while the Crown did remain a part of our Constitution, and those negotiations were trusted to the prerogative, he could have no conception of their calling for the secrets of any negotiation which the King might be carrying on for the purpose of peace."

Such a speech is, perhaps, sufficient to account for King George's resolution to dispense with Shelburne's services when he next formed a Ministry. At all events, it is inconsistent with the notion that the speaker was in any way led astray by the theory of a patriot king.

Lord Shelburne's way of dealing with such questions, indeed, contrasts advantageously with that of some modern commentators. The King, Lords, and Commons of the English Constitution are simply the special forms under which the universal demands of every progressive political body are satisfied in this country. Every such body needs an expression of the popular will, and unity of executive authority, as well as some means of winnowing the deliberate resolve of the nation from the sudden outbursts of momentary passion. The Commons, the Crown—or the Prime Minister—and the House of Lords, are respectively entrusted by the Constitution with the fulfilment of these several duties. Constitutional principle requires that no one of their duties shall be left without a special organ by which it may be performed. It equally condemns Charles I. in trying to rule without any reference to the popular voice, and the Commons of the Long Parliament in trying to rule without any check upon their own arbitrary will. But it is mere constitutional pedantry to say that where one or more of these bodies notoriously fails to fulfil its duties, any other shall not overstep the ordinary limits of its powers; not, indeed, in order to suppress the other, but to secure its restoration to usefulness. George III. is no great authority on constitutional law, and his mode of action was tainted by the use of those corrupt means which he blamed in others. But at least it may be conceded that the House of Commons against which he contended was not a body fulfilling the functions entrusted to it by the Constitution, and that in interposing his Royal authority "to forbid the banners," as Pitt would have said, between the coalition of two turbulent and self-seeking factions he was acting on behalf of the nation, which subsequently gave its approval to his conduct.

It was this far-sighted distinction between the ends of the Constitution and the formulas of the Constitution which made it impossible for Shelburne and the Whigs to work together. The petty squabble between him and Fox, which receives new illustration in these pages, was in fact only the im-

mediate cause of the rupture. It would, indeed, have been impossible by any amount of skill to put two men in positions more calculated to breed a quarrel. But even this danger might have been overcome if there had been community of sentiments between them. The present biography shows that there was no such community, and under such circumstances the breach was unavoidable.

Lord Shelburne's Ministerial life came to an end when he resigned the Treasury at the bidding of the Coalition. It is pleasant to know that he was one of the few who kept their judgment clear and their heads cool amid the horrors of the French Revolution. When the bulk of the aristocratic Whigs, in their timidity, drew Pitt into their ranks under the appearance of enlisting under his banner, Shelburne, now Marquis of Lansdowne, upheld the Liberal standard, and gathered under it those members of the party who adhered to his old rival, Fox.

It is impossible in closing this volume to avoid expressing the hope that some one may at last be found to write fairly and impartially the history of those stirring times. It is fortunate that no author capable of the task should have attempted it before Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice afforded the means of filling up the empty niche in which Lord Shelburne's image should have stood. In that history, whenever it is written, Lord Shelburne will always occupy a commanding position. But the other great men of the day, Burke, and Fox, and Pitt, will have their places too. The writer of a biography is rather too apt to dwell on the weak sides of the rivals of his hero, and a history of the time is therefore all the more needed to correct the false impression necessarily caused by the omission to dwell on their nobler qualities. SAMUEL R. GARDINER.

*Catholic Eschatology and Universalism.* By H. N. Oxenham, M.A. (London: B. M. Pickering, 1876.)

MR. OXENHAM observes in his preface, which is the most \* important addition he has made to the articles which he has reprinted from the *Contemporary*, that Universalists have hitherto been for the most part Unitarians. This observation has its bearing upon another equally pertinent:—"When the verdict of an 'enlightened conscience' is urged against such doctrines as that of eternal punishment we rightly desiderate some evidence that an enlightened conscience is not in this case a polite *alias* for interested self-will." Is it a fact that Unitarians are upon the whole less upright, pure, and helpful than the "orthodox"? Is it true that "orthodox" church or chapel-goers realise the doctrine of eternal punishment in proportion to their purity, their uprightness, their helpfulness? The sense of the exceeding sinfulness of sin, which does in proportion to its strength dispose to belief in that doctrine, is often

\* Possibly we should except a very ingenious note intended to show that the doctrine of the Real Presence involves the theory of Transubstantiation, which ought to be almost convincing to readers who can follow Mr. Oxenham in the assumption that material things have any substance distinct from the sum of their physical and chemical properties.

stronger in those who are living in bondage to sin than in those who have always resisted it or are striving successfully to forsake it.

The author is on surer ground when he observes that the doctrine is an integral part of the traditional creed, which he is aware is held together by something deeper than logic, though he may rather overrate the closeness of its logical coherence, and certainly underrates the significance of the fact that the most elaborate attacks on the doctrine of eternal punishment or everlasting torment come from writers honestly anxious to believe everything else. Nor is it clear that his skilful attempts to minimise the doctrine really make it more defensible. The view of Saint Francis Xavier on the prison of hell shut for ever on all who died without the knowledge of Christ; the view of Massillon on the small number of the elect; the view of Father Furness on the torments of hell, have a terrible coherence of their own. They were all united till very lately in the practical popular creed of earnest orthodox Protestants and Roman Catholics. Mr. Oxenham has shown that there is high Roman Catholic authority for questioning all three; can he show that the impulse to question them is not related to the impulse to question everlasting punishment, as a ground-swell in a harbour is related to a storm outside? He appears, while maintaining that the *poena damni* will be perpetual, to incline to believe that the *poena sensus* will cease: its cessation should logically include the termination of all conscious suffering consequent on the *poena damni*; it is difficult to suppose on his principles that impenitent sinners will attain the "natural beatitude" of unbaptised infants: and unless they attain it their existence would thenceforward be purely negative, and hard to distinguish from annihilation. We notice throughout that the author is rather too contemptuously indignant against the group of writers who seem to be doing a good deal to produce an unavowed impression that Protestant soteriology would be more credible if it presupposed Jewish instead of Platonic psychology. It is more intelligible that he sees only the repulsive side of Calvinism, and there is some truth in Mr. Mayor's remark that he thinks Calvinism too shocking to be scriptural, as the Universalists think everlasting punishment too shocking to be scriptural; and there is also truth in Mr. Oxenham's reply that Calvinism aggravates all the difficulties of the doctrine of eternal punishment, while a belief in Purgatory dilutes them; but the controversy seems to be reaching a point at which one disputant becomes declamatory and one, perhaps, punctilious.

Mr. Oxenham's argument from reason falls into three divisions: from the force of habit, from the freedom of the will, from the principle of resentment. The argument from the force of habit is really weighty: experience does furnish instances of people who get steadily worse and more wretched; though experience shows also that under prolonged suffering the resistance of the will generally breaks down, and that where this is not so volition and sensibility are gradually

deadened. Moreover, preachers commonly warn sinners to leave their sins instead of waiting for their sins to leave them; and, in fact, most sins do leave most sinners who wait in the course of their earthly life; is the probability very strong that the apparent exceptions will be permanent? As to the argument from freewill, the question whether a child shall obey an earthly father practically depends in most cases on the will of the father. The child is free to obey first or last; those who say that the only question is whether we will obey the Heavenly Father first or last make allowance for all the freewill there is any reason to suppose we possess. The argument from resentment is inconclusive, at best. It is quite true that in corrupted natures a desire to punish the offender manifests itself before a desire to reform him or to remedy the mischief he has done. These desires, so far as they are gratified, tend increasingly in good men to supersede the primitive instinct of resentment which is the foundation of our theory of punitive justice, with which perhaps we shall never be able to dispense altogether, because our power of reformatory and remedial beneficence is likely always to remain incomplete; but what is impossible with man is possible with God.

Mr. Oxenham is more successful in dealing with the argument from tradition: the view which he defends has always been in possession, it has always been supported by the main stream of authoritative teaching which is the unwritten common law of Christendom. The case of course would be stronger if the precise thesis of modern Universalists had been formally condemned by an authority able to speak in the name of undivided Christendom, or if, in default of this, all influential writers had maintained the general view. It is admitted on all hands that two great saints more or less followed Origen, and it is hard to show that the orthodox sense is enough for the natural meaning of the passage which Mr. Jukes quotes from Clement of Alexandria: we have to choose between holding that he hesitated on the question, or that he once said more than he meant; and, after weighing Mr. Oxenham's reply to Mr. Jukes in the October number of the *Christian Apologist*, one is still inclined to doubt whether St. Justin and St. Irenaeus had always a clear intellectual hold of the doctrine of everlasting punishment, while St. Jerome's special teaching on the subject looks very like a survival of Origenism.

Still, when we have made all allowances, the mind of the Church is clear; the well-known texts in the Synoptic Gospels always have been understood one way, and this makes the preponderance of the exegetical grounds for the common view practically decisive; though in a language which, like Biblical Greek, has only one word for secular and everlasting, exegetical arguments can hardly be decisive alone. It is hard to be sure of the preponderance of exegetical argument, because everyone is biased, either by his wishes, or by the revulsion from them; but the nearest approach to a neutral authority to be found seems to decide in favour of the orthodox view of the meaning of the Master's words, which for believers ought to be above question as they are above appeal. They

are echoed in the Apocalypse and in the Catholic Epistles; they are anticipated in the terrible last words of the Evangelical Prophet, into which He read a yet more terrible meaning. But if consistent disciples refuse to explain the Master's words away, or put a less appalling sense upon them, it does not follow that they are to get rid of the mass of texts recently marshalled in a very telling tract\* by what Mr. Oxenham must permit us to call a meagre distinction "between the fact and the ultimate result of Redemption." It is the weakness of Calvinism that it preaches salvation only to the elect: it is its strength that it preaches a full and free salvation to these; it does not explain salvation away into the opportunity of doing a work easy to none, very difficult to most, all but impossible to many. It is not very easy to think that a perfectly candid and teachable spirit (if such could be found)—passing from the Scriptural warnings of the Last Judgment to interpret the Scriptural promise of the restitution of all things, when God, who worketh all things after the counsel of His own will, who will have all men to be saved, who is the Saviour of all men, especially of them that believe, who saves His people, not for their sake, but for His own Name's sake, shall be all in all—would venture to say more than "Quam multa multitudo dulcedinis tuae, quam abscondisti timentibus te, perfecisti autem sperantibus in te."

G. A. SIMCOX.

*Russia and England in Central Asia.* By M. A. Terentyef. Translated from the Russian by F. C. Dawkes, B.C.S., Attaché to the Foreign Department of the Government of India. In Two Volumes. (Calcutta: Printed at the Foreign Department Press, 1876.)

UNLESS bluster be an efficient substitute for argument and asseveration for truthfulness, the views of "an educated Russian," as Captain Terentyef is called in his translator's preface, cannot be regarded as a valuable addition to existing literature bearing on English and Russian policy in Central Asia. Considered as history, its many inaccuracies render the work entirely useless; nor is criticism invited, for we are informed that it is not dedicated to those interested in scientific research, but is for the information of the general public in Russia. The Russian public are much to be pitied if Captain Terentyef is to be their oracle on Asiatic policy.

The first volume is devoted to an account of Russian advances in the East, and relates how Russian influence or dominion spread gradually from the Ural to the Orenberg and Siberian line, thence to the Syr Darya, and onwards, southward through Khokand, Bokhara, and Khiva, eastward through Kashgar, to the frontiers of Persia, Afghanistan, and China. Russia's first advances date from the Tartar supremacy; but it was not till the sixteenth century that Perm and Astrakhan were subdued under Ivan the Terrible. The gradual conquest of the Kirghish steppe is narrated, and

it is argued that, the Ural once passed, a geographical necessity was involved that Russian frontiers should be further advanced, so as to be conterminous with those of a civilised country to which treaty obligations were sacred, since there intervened no sufficient physical boundary to ward off the continual inroads of half-barbarous tribes.

No mention is made of Perovski's expedition against Khiva in 1838. The author evidently considered that a demonstration so sudden tallied very little with the stealthy, catlike movements of the Russians. From another source we find that this expedition was purposed "not only to consolidate Russian power in the Khanates, but to prevent the influence of the East India Company, so dangerous to Russia."

As Caesar says of Gaul, all Central Asia "in tres partes divisa est:" viz., on the north, the Kirghish Steppe; then, southward, Mesopotamia between the Jaxartes and the Upper Oxus, comprising the fertile districts of the Oozbeks, with Khokand, Bokhara, and Kashgar; lastly, Khiva and the Turkoman Steppe, separated from India by Afghanistan. So we may trace Russian annexation through three phases. The first terminates with the subjugation of the Kirghish population, and the fixing of the Russian frontier at the banks of the Jaxartes. This is balanced by the English annexation of the Punjaub. Could the frontiers of each nation have been preserved in a state of tranquillity at this point, no Central Asian Question need have arisen, nor would the Russians have had any excuse for their further progress. But even then there was a feeling that "the Sepoy and the Cossack would meet on the banks of the Oxus;" and that no "neutral zone" would continue to separate English and Russian dependencies. Starting from 1847, when the erection of the fort of Raimsk, for which Fort Aralsk was afterwards substituted, made the first *étape* towards further conquests, Russian advances have been continual though slow. The storming of the important fort of Ak Musjid in 1852 was the first of the series of victories over the Khokandians, and this was quickly followed by Captain Skupa's success on the occasion of their attempt some few months later to retake the fort. We are not told of the serious delay to the Russian arms owing to the revolts of the Kirghese which lasted, off and on, from 1853 to 1857. The occupation of the towns of Turkestan and Tchemkend was followed by the taking by Tcherniaeff of Tashkent in 1865. Captain Terentyef omits to tell us that General Tcherniaeff was recalled on account of this latter feat, as having exceeded his orders. Neither are we informed that, as a kind of consolation, he was presented by the Emperor with a diamond-hilted sword. The various legends respecting this officer show that he was the one Russian almost universally respected in Asia. He was succeeded by General von Kauffman. It may be aptly remarked here how wholly the history of Russia in Asia is the story of the emulous enterprises of successive generals, not openly encouraged, and yet not absolutely prohibited by the Government at St. Petersburg. The battle of Irdgar, the

\* *The Doctrine of the Everlasting Torment of the Wicked Shown to be Unscriptural.* (S. Tinsley.)

storming of Khojendt, the appointment of General von Kauffman as Governor-General of Turkestan, were gradual though certain steps towards the establishment of Russian rule as far southward as the Oxus. All this time, although Samarcand was occupied and Bokhara threatened, despatches and other communications to England deprecate any idea of annexation, and deny any intention to subjugate the Khanates.

Russian relations with Bokhara, Khokand, Khiva, Western China, and Kashgar, are successively recounted in separate chapters. With regard to the recent expedition against Khiva, we should have been glad to see Captain Terentyef's account of the alleged massacre of the Yomuds, but it is not mentioned. A statement in the chapter on Afghanistan, to the effect that one of the stipulations at the Amballa conference was that "Shere Ali should deport into British India some of the more influential Sirdars who were unfavourably disposed towards the British," and that he "should disarm the Afghans, and in future prohibit the carrying of arms in Afghanistan," will give an idea of the writer's historical accuracy.

We will now leave the volume of this work mainly devoted to narrative, and proceed to give some account of the second, in which our author is decidedly combative. There is not space to criticise his peculiar account of the rise and progress of "the poisonous, unnatural plant engrafted on the splendid soil of India, a parasite which saps away the life of the most fertile and wealthy country in the world," which is a euphemism by which Captain Terentyef designates the Honourable East India Company; nor can we discuss in detail his account of the relations between Russia and England, and his notices of Stoddart and Conolly. We must hurry on to the only two interesting, although at the same time most extravagant, chapters in the whole work, which are devoted—the first to the "Objects of Russia," the second to criticisms on the opinions of foreigners on Russian advances in Central Asia.

We notice at the commencement a statement that "we may boldly assert that during the whole course of our progressive advance, not so much as a thought of India has ever occurred to us." With this compare pp. 12–22, which contain an elaborate account of the Franco-Russian scheme in the time of Paul for the overthrow of English rule in India. It is also argued that "if the sole object of our conquests in Central Asia were India, we should hurry on, and not waste valuable time in long and profitless political discussions with the Khans." We need only ask, is it the habit of the Muscovite to "rush any of his fences"? The sporting term must be excused. Russia, we are told, has undergone innumerable sacrifices in Central Asia, gaining therefrom, thanks to England alone, no advantages whatever. The tone of Russian communications with England has become greatly changed in consequence of the lessening of the distance between Russian and English territory. "Anxiety for the safety of her colonies is in fact a lever which may be employed to oblige England to agree upon all possible questions." We are supplied with

an illustration of this proposition in the case of the Polish question in 1863. The English Government had threatened to recognise Poland as a belligerent power: the despatch containing this menace was cancelled before its communication to the Russian Government. This Capt. Terentyef affirms to have been due to the reception of news from New York that six of the fastest vessels in the Russian fleet had reached that port, in readiness to sail, at a moment's notice, to Australia. Really only five vessels were at New York, and whether these were intended to "capture" Australia he does not tell us, which is a "hiatus valde defendendus." He calls the move "Gortchakoff's pill."

The above, tempered with some remarks deprecative of aggression, show the "objects of Russia."

The latter part of this chapter, containing extracts from the views of Sir H. Rawlinson on Central Asia, should have been deferred to the next, in which are reviewed the opinions of a German, Hellwald; a Frenchman, Lejean; a Hungarian, Vambéry; and Schuyler, the American, whom Captain Terentyef selects as expositors of the various shades of national thought. The first-named author is cordially approved, since he holds up Russia to public view as the pioneer of civilisation; Lejean, though praiseworthy in the purpose of his work, is advised to obtain his information from Russians at St. Petersburg, and not from French "coiffeurs;" but the full vial of our author's indignation is reserved for "the double-faced, perfidious Hun," M. Vambéry, who is "essentially a charlatan," and whose "writings abound in contradictions." He thinks it necessary to elaborate a contradiction of Vambéry's figure of speech when he speaks of the dealings of the Emperor with the Asiatic Khans as those of a Khan on the Neva, and not of the Emperor of all the Russias. He even goes so far as to say that M. Vambéry never visited Central Asia, and mainly bases this opinion on an alleged error in the statement of the colour of the Ameer's throne at Samarcand, which is really given correctly. Truly Captain Terentyef is severe on the faults of his adversaries.

The two succeeding chapters are voluminous tables of statistics, which, if they are to be relied upon, show that, in spite of her "innumerable sacrifices," Russia does not lose much by Central Asia from a financial point of view.

Etiquette is next dealt with, and the system of gifts is minutely discussed, as well as other features in the conduct of political communications.

The concluding chapter is headed "Orthodoxy and Mahomedanism." Forced orthodoxy is disapproved of, and a very good excuse is given for the lack of missionary enterprise in Central Asia in the following words:—"Is it not that we have no missionaries to spare, and that some of our large governorships, having themselves fallen short of the faith, are still more in want of preachers?"

On the whole, the idea given by Captain Terentyef's two volumes on the general political question is that no imminent attack

from Russia on our Indian possessions need be apprehended; yet, notwithstanding any disclaimers to this effect, the gradual approach of their dominions to ours should be jealously watched, since it undoubtedly facilitates the machinations of Russian intriguers, many of whom are scattered through India. Should an invasion ever be attempted, the route taken will not be through Merv and Herat, but through the more northern province of Cabul.

With regard to the translation, Mr. Dawkes has rendered the Russian into free and readable English. He should, however, remember that the French Emperor's name was not spelt *Napolean*, and our sometime ambassador at St. Petersburg was Sir Andrew, not Sir Alexander, Buchanan.

T. W. CRAWLEY.

#### NEW NOVELS.

*Joan. A Tale.* By Rhoda Broughton. In Three Volumes. (London: R. Bentley & Son, 1876.)

*Thomas Wingfold, Curate.* By George MacDonald, LL.D. In Three Volumes. (London: Hurst & Blackett, 1876.)

*Courtship in 1720, in 1860.* By Hawley Smart. In Two Volumes. (London: Chapman & Hall, 1876.)

*As the Shadows Fall. A Novel.* By J. E. Muddock. In Three Volumes. (London: Samuel Tinsley, 1876.)

A NEW book by Miss Broughton is always an event in the novel-reading world, for it is sure to be full of lively descriptions, smart writing, and vividly-drawn scenes. Unfortunately, however, it is almost equally certain to contain much that is flippant and in bad taste, and in these latter respects *Joan* seems to us even a greater offender than its predecessors. The story is a simple one, for Miss Broughton never complicates her stories; the characters are few, with the chief light focused, as it should be, on the central figure, and many of the descriptions are life-like, notably that of the villas in the suburbs of Helmsley. But the whole tone of the book is utterly distasteful. There is a loving lingering over details of luxury, over kisses long drawn-out, over frequent squeezings of the hands, that quite over-matches any healthier passages. Surely the author's powers of description can be employed to better purpose than the details of a dinner, where "quiet-footed swift servants ply the guests with palate-tickling dishes," "Each dish tastes more deliciously than its predecessor," and "how pleasantly the Veuve Clicquot, daintily sipped, stirs the blood in the young veins" of the heroine! Why should the only part of a dining-room that is brought to our notice be the painted ceiling, "where water-gods and sea-nymphs are frolicking, naked and unashamed"? Is the fat and selfish Lalage a common type of womanhood? of whom the following is the coarsely characteristic remark:—"I never see a preposterously fat person that I do not instantly picture them [*sic*] in their bath." The hero, Anthony Wolferstan, "has not got it on his conscience that he ever in all his life missed an opportunity of squeezing a woman's hand."

He proposes to Joan, having told her (seriously, we must conclude, for it is repeated many times) that he has shortly before been in love with Lalage Beaumont, whom, when he last saw her, he followed round the room on his knees, weeping copiously the while. This man, who "has a broad gray eye, the clear window to such a prosperous house, the *découpé* nostril, the *dé-bonnair* lips, the shorn square chin," first rapturously accepted by Joan, and subsequently refused by her, because she discovers her father has been a forger, eventually marries Lalage—as might be expected, the marriage does not turn out happily—and later on invites Joan to become his mistress. On the last page it is hinted that he marries Joan, after the death of Lalage from apoplexy. The very children are not exempt from the fleshly taint of the whole book, but ask embarrassing questions as to Queen Caroline, and the relations between Lord Nelson and Lady Hamilton. No doubt children in their innocence may utter questions of the kind; but why choose such questions to perpetuate? The answer here is too obvious. There is another point that we dislike extremely, and that is the use of God's name, which is invoked more frequently than we have ever before seen it in any novel. Does Miss Broughton write in the style of *Joan* to please herself, or to please the public? In either case we trust the public will give its opinion with no uncertain voice.

It would be paying but a poor compliment to Mr. MacDonald to attempt within the limits of a short notice to enter into details concerning *Thomas Wingfold, Curate*. We must content ourselves with telling our readers the sort of book it is, and strongly advise them to read it for themselves. It is the story of a man who, suddenly brought face to face with an Atheist, is astonished to find that he cannot out of his own heart find answers to scoffs and arguments against Christianity. He therefore begins from the very beginning, praying as he never prayed before, disdaining no assistance, nor crushed by the doubts which at one time seem likely to overwhelm him. We have the whole working of the man's mind laid bare before us in his conversations, in his prayers, in his sermons, and in verses of no ordinary beauty which his soul pours forth. It is almost a necessity, when a narrative of this kind takes the form of a story of modern life, that the characters should seem strained and unreal: and Mr. MacDonald has heightened this effect by making two dwarfs the persons most concerned in bringing back the curate's peace of mind. The story, however, even in itself is not uninteresting, though of course it plays a subsidiary part to the great mental struggle which is going on throughout. It is a book that may be read by people of every school of thought, for doctrinal matters are touched upon with a very light hand, and at the end the curate is left with an immutable belief in Christ, the foundation on which all other superstructures are raised. It is the strife between Atheism and a belief in God and Christ which is depicted, not the attacks of unbelief against the Church or any particular Christian sect.

*Courtship in 1720, in 1860*, is a book in

two volumes, but each volume is essentially a separate book. There is nothing in common between them except the title, and the author might just as well have published them separately. Nor can they be taken as typical of the love-making of the two periods. They are, however, very readable stories, and written with the author's usual dash and spirit.

We remember that when, as children, we came upon an anecdote of a more extraordinary instance than usual of the sagacity of an elephant, the devotion of a dog, or the bump of locality in a cat, our attention was commonly arrested by an asterisk. This referred us to a short note containing the simple words "a fact." Criticism was thus forestalled, and the inherent improbability of the story passed over without a murmur. Mr. Muddock pursues a similar method in *As the Shadows Fall*. In his preface, which is perhaps the most wonderful part of the book, he tells us that it will no doubt be urged that the plot is improbable, but that the main incidents are strictly true.

"The prototype of the villain of the story," he says, "I knew in the flesh. He was the son of an old and honoured family, and a young man of high scholastic attainments; but his learning could not counteract the effects of some moral deformity under which he laboured. He actually separated a young married couple by means of a forged letter, and for this act he was exiled by his family. He went to China, and during the last rebellion closed a wasted life as he was leading a company of the rebels against the Imperialist troops. I had the melancholy satisfaction of saving his body from mutilation by the enraged soldiers, and helping to bury it decently in a lonely grave on the edge of a swamp."

What a field of speculation is here open to us! Did the unfortunate young man with the "moral deformity" become a Taeping? And on which side was Mr. Muddock that he turned up so opportunely to inter his friend? though the force of circumstances does not seem to have allowed him to make a very happy selection of a burying-place. Truth, as the author reminds us, is no doubt stranger than fiction: but it does not follow that if you bind together a number of the strangest truths you can light upon, you will thereon weave a probable or even a possible story. He tells us that the search for the lost heir of the Tintagel estates had its counterpart in real life, and we know that some years ago a young lady ran away with her father's groom; but we never heard that the groom was the lost heir of anybody, or that he has since taken his seat in the House of Lords. We by no means desire to run down the book, however, in spite of the impossibility of the story; it is exceedingly interesting, and many of the descriptions, such as the burning of the circus and the escape of the wild beasts in the Russian village, quite thrilling. There are some curious slips: what can the author mean by telling us that Caffa is a small seaport in the Crimea on the shores of the sea of Azov (we thought it was on the Black Sea), and then saying that the way to reach it is "to get on board a vessel going up the Baltic"? We also demur to the idea that a man who is described as "the soul of honour" would inveigle the daughter

of his master into a clandestine marriage; but if the reader can get over this slight "moral deformity" he will find that the hero leaves "little to be desired."

F. M. ALLEYNE.

#### CURRENT LITERATURE.

*Hood's Poetical Works*. Complete Edition. Two Vols. (E. Moxon, Son and Co.) It is something to have at last a collection of Hood's poems in two volumes, and not to have to search for them through half a dozen. The present issue claims to be complete, and in one instance certainly is more than complete, for the well-known lines "Farewell, Life! My senses swim," are printed twice in the same volume, at page 199 and page 572 of the "Serious Poems." In the preface a remark is made on the difficulty of exactly separating the serious from the comic in Hood's works. No doubt there is a difficulty, and "Miss Killmansegg," for instance, might occupy a debating society for some hours on the question of its classification. But by what conceivable process of reasoning an editor could have been induced to class the "Maid of Margate," the "Remonstratory Ode," and a score of other such things as "serious poems" we are at a loss to discover. Even "The Desert Born," despite the great poetical beauty of part of it, is as obviously burlesque as anything in English literature. The fact that Hood's comic poems far outnumber his serious pieces, and would make a much larger volume, may be a reason for abandoning this principle of arrangement, but can be no excuse for making a farce of it. We had rather, however, that the principle were strictly carried out. From grave to gay is a very pleasant transition when the gaiety is the gaiety of Elia or of Shakspeare. But Hood's merriment, amusing as much of it is, is too often of a definitely unpoetic kind, vulgarising instead of sublimating. It is, therefore, a really unpleasant shock to pass at once from the perfect music of "Lycus," of the "Midsummer Fairies," of the "Haunted House," to the street-melodies of the "Volunteer," and the "Lines on Pawning my Watch," though the latter are, of course, capital things in their way. There was no suspicion of shame to the poet in his assumption of the motley by which alone he could and did earn his living, but we are sure that he himself would have been the first to desire that the few and noble masterpieces of his art should be exhibited separately from his mere journey-work. The print of these volumes is small, but clear enough; of the illustrations (those in the "comic volume" appear to be the original ones) we had rather not speak.

To persons unacquainted with the frequency of literary coincidences, it may seem odd that whereas the British public have been content to go without a translation of Molière for a good many scores of years, two such translations should have appeared in the course of a twelvemonth. The first and most elaborate of these has already been noticed more than once before in these columns—of the second (*The Dramatic Works of Molière*. Translated into English prose by C. Heron Wall. G. Bell and Sons. "Bohn's Standard Library") the first volume has just appeared. It has no such splendid apparatus as M. Van Laun's sumptuous work, nor is it accompanied by extended notes or introductions. But the comments, if few, are judiciously chosen and very much to the point, and the translator evidently possesses a knowledge of English far superior to that with which his rival is equipped. Abandoning the hopeless attempt to translate idioms literally, he has as a rule succeeded very fairly in finding corresponding English equivalents. His titles also are good: and the general style of his work is easy and pleasant to read. If there be any person who desires to make acquaintance with Molière, and is unable to do so

in the original, he will find a very fair substitute in Mr. Heron Wall's translation.

THE fifth volume of M. Van Laun's Molière (Paterson) contains *L'Avare*, *M. de Pourceaugnac*, *Les Amants Magnifiques*, *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme*, and *Psyché*. In most of these plays there occurs lyrical work which does not exhibit M. Van Laun's plan of literal translation in a very favourable light. This is especially the case with that unique specimen of collaboration, *Psyché*, in which Molière, Corneille, Quinault, and Lulli each had a share. In speaking of *Les Amants Magnifiques*, which he rather depreciates (probably because of its connexion with Louis XIV., who seems to be M. Van Laun's special red-rag), the translator is within the mark in affirming that it is "borrowed from the same source as" Corneille's *Don Sanche*. It seems much more likely that Molière was directly indebted to his friend. In criticising the *Bourgeois Gentilhomme* M. Van Laun shows himself quite unable to enter into the spirit of Molièresque comedy. To describe Dorante as "sufficiently a scoundrel to pander to Jourdain's worst vices" is the merest shooting in the air, and argues anything but the sympathetic comprehension of his author which a translator should have.

*The Poetical Works of Coleridge*, and *The Poetical Works of Shelley*. "Chandos Poets." (F. Warne and Co.) Of Coleridge and Shelley perhaps more emphatically than of any English poet except Spenser, it may be said that any new editions or reprints may be at once, and without enquiry, cordially welcomed. They cannot be too much or too often read, and every new edition has a chance, which amounts to a certainty, of bringing them under the eyes of somebody who would not otherwise have known them. We are, therefore, very glad to see these two portly and handsome volumes. They appear to be as full as (not being copyright) they can be, and indeed the *Coleridge* is more complete than any other one-volume edition known to us, as it includes "Zapolya." It is a well-printed book, and the illustrations are fair. The *Shelley* is in smaller type, and suffers more from the lack of copyright—wild work being made, for instance, from the exquisite "Invitation" and "Recollection." We can see no reason, moreover, except this, why the excellent arrangement of grouping the poems under the years of their composition should have been departed from; and the retention of the old meaningless misprint *δακρύει* for *δακρύει* in the epigraph of the address to Coleridge does not argue a careful editor. Of the Introductions prefixed to these volumes perhaps the less said the better. It is not unpleasant in an idle hour to try and conceive the mental attitude of an editor of Shelley who, with an apparently honest admiration of his author, "regrets that he ever wrote 'Queen Mab' and the 'Revolt of Islam.'" But the memoir of Coleridge is much more astounding. Whether we have ever seen it before we cannot be certain, but it was apparently written not long after the poet's death, and seems to have been intended for some periodical. Its unfortunate author is pleased to inform us that "Christabel" contains "much of the ridiculous mixed up with a little of the sublime." He never mentions "Kubla Khan," or "The Ancient Mariner," or "Love." But (to make amends), amid much babble about "chastely beautiful Grecian temples," "pagodas," "coarse canvas," "appropriate metaphorical terms," and so forth, he gives us to understand that "the most correct, sublime, chaste, and beautiful of Coleridge's poems" is—"Religious Musings"!

*Mae Madden*. By Mary Murdoch Mason. With an Introductory Poem by Joaquin Miller. (Chicago: Jansen, McClurg and Co.) At first sight this little book looks like an elaborate specimen of the good old game "I love my love with an M," what with its author, Mrs. Mary Murdoch Mason, its prologiser, Mr. Miller, and its

heroine, Miss Mae Madden, who marries a man named Mann. A careful and carping critic might also object that Mr. Joaquin Miller's Introduction is questionably introductory. It has plenty of merit in its way, with something of Mr. Browning about it, and something more of Shelley's "Vision of the Sea;" but why the account of the appearance of a kind of human Anadyomene at Venice should be an appropriate usher to a tale of carnival life at Rome is perhaps a difficult question to answer. The novelette itself, however, is in no need of sponsorship, for a pleasanter story (considering its slowness) we never read. "Of course there were English who scowled at the Americans," says our author somewhere; but we don't think, judging from her book, that we should be in the slightest danger of scowling at her, or at her heroine.

*The Maid of Stralsund: a Story of the Thirty Years' War*. By J. B. de Liefde. (Hodder and Stoughton.) The author of this historical romance has selected a good theme, but has scarcely proved himself capable of making the most of it. The plot is very simple and rather heavy, but the style of warfare prevailing in Germany during the great struggle between the Protestants and Catholics from 1628 to 1632 is faithfully described. The best parts of the book are the illustrations of the characters of Gustavus Adolphus, Wallenstein, Tilly and Pappenheim. In fact, the campaigns of Gustavus Adolphus are very faithfully photographed; but the representations of them, however faithful, are wanting in spirit and colouring. They are exact, but they are without life. As to interest in the fortunes of any particular individual mentioned in the story, there is none. Even as a contribution to military archaeology, the *Maid of Stralsund* is a failure. Walter Scott would have made something of such a subject, but not the merest scrap of his mantle has fallen on Mr. Liefde. Captain Grant could, at all events, have taught the author of the book before us how to turn a turbulent period to literary account, as regards sensation, at least; but the reader of the *Maid of Stralsund* must be an exceptional personage if he is either excited or instructed by the tame account of adventures in love and war here placed before us.

*From New Year to New Year*, and *From All the World Round*. By the author of "I Must Keep the Chimes Going," &c. (Seeley.) This book is an illustrated collection of articles contributed by the author at different times to various religious periodicals. It is both avowedly and obviously intended for children, and we must say that the literary pabulum provided is suited for the feeblest mental digestions. Whether anyone with an ordinary intellect, and above the age of ten, will care to read the work before us we much doubt. It is very goody, the stories, if we may so style them, are very short, and totally devoid of interest. In short, they are simply well-diluted fragments of tracts. We suppose some people read the anonymous author's productions; but if virtue is to be rewarded by a present of *From New Year to New Year*, we imagine that vice will soon become alarmingly popular in the nursery.

*The Correct Card; or, How to Play at Whist*. A Whist Catechism. By Captain Arthur Campbell-Walker, F.R.G.S. (Longmans.) We have been sorely puzzled to discover the *raison d'être* of this extraordinary publication. The author professes to "follow in the wake of Hoyle, Mathews, Cavendish, Clay, and Pole," a fancy expression for using their matter; but he objects to all these worthies on the ground that to some minds "a didactic treatise is repellent," and he considers that the "catechetical form" of instruction is a novelty and an improvement. Hence, he makes up a book by taking sentences from the ordinary whist authorities and transmogrifying them into questions and answers. Suppose, for example, it is said somewhere, "suits not trumps are called plain suits," here we have it in two columns:—

1. What are called 1. Suits not trumps.  
plain suits?

Or if, in the old common-sense parlance, we find a law (for the laws are here catecheticalised as well as the rules of play), "If a card be exposed in cutting, there must be a fresh cut," the new Catechism puts it:—

44. If a card be exposed in cutting, must there be a fresh cut? 44. Yes.

In this way the author has prepared a series of about 500 questions and answers, with the idea of establishing, we presume, a universal Whist Bee, in analogy with the amusement lately so much in fashion. If this sort of conundrum-making is really an improvement on the ordinary "didactic" forms, why not try it in other cases? For example, we might teach the multiplication table thus:—

1. How many are 1. Four.  
twice two?

27. Are three times 27. No.  
nine twenty-six?

Or we might re-write history thus:—

1. In the second century 1. The fairest.  
of the Christian era, what part of the earth did the Empire of Rome comprehend?

306. What is become 306. She is dead.  
of Queen Anne?

Or we might inaugurate an "improved" style of poetry, thus:—

1. What is the ques- 1. To be or not to be.  
tion?

15. What shall he be 15. D—d.  
that first cries "hold,  
enough"?

98. What ought the 98. Sing.  
heavenly muse to do in  
regard to man's first  
disobedience, &c., &c.?

All this would, no doubt, in this author's view, be well adapted to meet the wants of those minds to whom "the didactic form is repellent," and we recommend Messrs. Longmans at once to get up an "Educational Series" accordingly.

#### NOTES AND NEWS.

CAPTAIN RICHARD F. BURTON is about to publish with Messrs. R. Bentley and Son *Sind Revisited*, the result of another journey into Western India.

*Two Lilies* is the name of the new story by Miss Julia Kavanagh, which will be published early in the new year by Messrs. Hurst and Blackett.

To the forthcoming number of the *New Quarterly* Miss Frances Power Cobbe will contribute a paper upon "Schopenhauer in his Relations to Modern Pessimism." The same number of the magazine will contain an article by Dr. F. Hueffer, entitled "The Reformation of the Thirteenth Century."

MRS. ALEXANDER, the authoress of *The Wooing o't*, has a new story in the press entitled *The Heritage of Langdale*, to be published by Messrs. R. Bentley and Son.

MESSRS. R. BENTLEY AND SON issue this week a second edition of Mr. Wedmore's *Studies in English Art*.

THE contributions to literature of Mr. George Dawson were insignificant, but by his death, which took place last week at his country house near Birmingham, the cause of culture among the middle and lower-middle class in England none the less loses a friend. George Dawson represented liberal ideas to the townsfolk of many a midland and north-country town. His lectures, which had they been reduced to literary form might possibly have been received somewhat

coldly by the critics, as lacking in consecutive thought and in any high originality, were undoubtedly during many years a very appreciable instrument of culture. He never carried political opinions to the point of partisanship. His sympathies were generous, and in private life his manners of a homely kindliness.

MESSRS. LONGMANS announce *A New Concordance to the Bible*, by Dr. Young; *The Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah*, by Dr. Edersheim; *Submarine Telegraphy*, by W. H. Preece and J. Sivewright; a translation, by W. Crookes, of Auerbach's *Anthracia*; *The History, Products, and Processes of the Alkali Trade*, by C. T. Kingzett; *The Amateur Mechanic's Practical Handbook*, by A. H. G. Hobson; *The Engineer's Valuing Assistant*; *A Treatise of Some New Geometrical Methods*, Vol. II., by D. Booth; and *English Grammar*, by J. Gostwick.

WE understand that the first volume of Mr. Herbert Spencer's *Principles of Sociology* is completed, and may be looked for before Christmas. It will form the sixth volume of the Synthetic Philosophy.

It is intended to issue from the press of the University of Dublin a series of works, chiefly educational, by members of that university. It is expected that the earliest volumes of the series will be the following:—*Lectures on Physical Geography*, by the Rev. Samuel Haughton, Professor of Geology; *A Treatise on the Morphology of the Vertebrate Animals*, by Alexander Macalister, Professor of Zoology and Comparative Anatomy; and the first portion of a complete edition of the *Letters of Cicero, with a Commentary*, by Robert Y. Tyrrell, Professor of Latin.

At the sale last week by Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson and Hodge, of the Italian Library of the Chevalier J. Marchetti, of Turin, the following prices were fetched by the chief lots: *Cento Novelle*, Bologna, 1525, 13l.; De Marchi, *Dell'architettura militare*, Brescia, 1590, 9l. 15s.; *Bartolomeo deli Sonetti*, 1477, 4l. 1s.; Guido di Choulonna, *Incomincia il prologo sopra la historia di Troja*, 1481, 7l.; Panziera, *Alcuni singolari tractati*, 1492, 3l. 18s.; ditto, *Tractato bellissimo*, 1492, 4l. 7s. 6d.; Petrarca, *Incomincia il libro degli homini famosi*, 1476, 5l. 17s. 6d.; ditto, *Libro degli Imperatori et Pontefici*, 1478, 5l.; Savonarola, *Prediche di frate Hieronimo da Ferrara*, 6l. 6s.; Ariosto, *Orlando Furioso adornato da G. Porro*, 1584, 11l. 18s.; Boccaccio, *Il Decamerone*, 1757, 4l. 6s.; *Proverbi di Cornazano*, 3l. 7s.; Petrarca con l'espositione d' A. Vellutello, 1545, 6l. 10s.; Pistolesi, *Il Vaticano descritto ed illustrato*, 1829, 9l. 15s.; *Operette del P. Sviaio*, 1535, 3l.; *Tucidide*, Venice, 1545, 7l. 10s.; Vecellio, *Degli habiti antichi et moderni di diverse parti del mondo*, 1590, 9l. 12s.; ditto, *Di tutto il mondo*, 1598, 12l. 10s.; Vasari, *Vite de' Pittori*, 1759, 3l. 18s.; Bembo, *Prose della volgar lingua*, 1594, 10l.; *Canti Carnascialeschi*, 1559, 6l. 10s.; *Opere di Lorenzo de' Medici*, 1825, 4l. 9s.; Zanetti, *Nuova raccolta delle monete e zecche d'Italia*, 1776, 5l. 5s.; *Habiti d' Huomeni et Donne venetiane*, 1610, 4l. 12s.; *Descrizione del regale apparato per le nozze della serenissima Madama Cristina di Loreno*, 1589, 15l. 5s.; another copy, 12l. 10s.; *Feste nelle nozze di Don F. Medici et la Signora Bianca Capello*, 1679, 8l.; Ariosto, *Orlando Furioso*, Aldine edition, 1545, 5l. 5s.; *Aristophanis Comœdiæ*, ditto, 1498, 4l.; Bembi, *Petrì de Aetna ad Angelum Chabrielem*, ditto, 1495, 7l. 7s.; Dante, *Le terze rime*, ditto, 1502, 5l. 7s. 6d.; Homer, ditto, 1504, 6l. 5s.; Horace, 1st Aldine edition, 1501, 20l.; ditto, 1509, 10l.; Lucretius, Aldine, 1500, 8l. 8s.; Machiavelli, ditto, 1546, 6l. 6s.; Manutius, ditto, 1501, 10l. 15s.; Meliadus, ditto, 1558, 3l. 13s. 6d.; Petrarch, 1st Aldine, 1501, 6l. 7s. 6d.; Plato, ditto, 1513, 6l. 18s. 6d.; Plutarch, ditto, 1509, 6l. 6s.; Polifilo, 2nd Aldine, 1545, 18l. 18s.; ditto, first edition, 1499, 45l.; Virgil, 1545, 7l. 2s. 6d.; Theocritus, 1495, 5l.; Van Dyck, *Icones Principum Virorum*, &c., 9l. 9s.; Cervantes, *El*

*ingenioso Hidalgo Don Quixote*, Madrid, 1780, 7l. 7s.; Gravelot et Oochin, *Iconologie par figures*, 6l. Among the few manuscripts sold were a *Livre de Chœur*, 9l. 5s.; an *Officium Beatae Mariae*, fifteenth century, 12l. 10s.; another, 9l. 10s. The whole sale, which lasted five days, realised 1,383l. 13s. 6d.

A LIBRARY of an almost unique character will be sold at Manchester in the course of next week by Messrs. Capes, Dunn, and Pilcher. The collector of it was the Rev. Thomas Corser, Rector of Stand, near that city. Among the curiosities of it are several thousand catalogues of the most noted Collections of Books that have been dispersed for a century past, many with prices and buyers' names; the original MS. of Cavendish's *Life of Wolsey*; the Psalms in the autograph of Geo. Wither; *The Most Antient Historie of God and Man*, a poem of about 12,000 lines, by R. C., ornamented with Indian-ink drawings, finished July 29, 1629, in the original binding; a large-paper copy of the *Bibliotheca Anglo-Poetica*, and a copy of Walton and Cotton, each copy illustrated with about 1,000 portraits; Shakspere's *Richard the Third*, 1612, and the *Merry Wives of Windsor*, 1619, &c., &c.

M. HENRY HOUSSEY, son of the well-known novelist Arsène Houssaye, wrote when barely eighteen a *Life of Apelles*, and a few years after a *History of Alcibiades and of the Athenian Republic*, which has just reached its fourth edition. He is now the literary critic of the *Journal des Débats*. He is preparing a volume which will be called *Athens, Rome, Paris*, one chapter of which he has just published separately in one small volume (H. Vatou), entitled *The First Siege of Paris*, B.C. 52. Neglecting all the allusions that cannot fail to present themselves to the terrible siege which Paris has recently undergone, one is struck by all the recollections which an intelligent scholar can evoke in the midst of the life of to-day. Thus M. Henry Houssaye has noted on the map and plan all the points of attack of the legions of Labienus, making them correspond to the present names of streets and quays. There was no siege, strictly speaking. Old Lutetia was set on fire by her own hands on the approach of the implacable conquerors of Gaul. The defenders, under the command of the Gaul Camulogenes, perished to the last man.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to enquire whether the *a* in *fame* and the *o* in *note* are usually regarded as simple vowels. The answer is that the majority of English phoneticians agree with our correspondent in regarding these vowels as diphthongs, although Mr. Ellis himself, the father of English phonology, still partially retains the older view that they are simple monophthongs. The table of simple vowel-sounds and diphthongs given by our correspondent, although it shows acuteness and observation, is not correct in many of its details, and we would refer him to Mr. Sweet's *History of English Sounds* (Trübner, 1874), if he wishes to make himself acquainted with the latest and most exact analysis of the English vowels.

THE edition of the *Mahāvansa*, our best authority for the ancient history of India, now being prepared under the auspices of the Ceylon Government, is getting on surely, if slowly. The Hon. George Turnour had published the first thirty-eight chapters, and a few others had been edited in different periodicals by Mr. Rhys Davids and others. The Ceylon edition begins at the thirtieth chapter, and has now been printed down to the fifty-eighth inclusive, which carries the history down to the time of Parākrama Bāhū of Ceylon. The Pāli text is edited under the superintendence of the two most distinguished native scholars, the Chief Priest Sumangala, of Hik-kaduwa, and Batuwana Tūḍāwa Pandit. It is in contemplation to print simultaneously the commentary on the *Mahāvansa*, written by the author himself, and particularly full and valuable on

those parts of the *Mahāvansa* relating rather to India than to Ceylon.

THE Second Report to the Ceylon Government, by Dr. Goldschmidt, the Archaeological Commissioner in that colony, will shortly be published. It will contain not only a general estimate of the final results which may be looked for, but translations and translations of several important inscriptions. With one exception these are all in Elu (as the older Sinhalese dialects are collectively called), and they will give a decisive verdict on the vexed question of the history of that language, which is now ascertained to be Aryan, and not Dravidian, as well in its word-forms as in its grammar. The one exception is an inscription in Pāli, to which Dr. Goldschmidt attaches great importance for the determination of the origin of that sacred language. The Buddhists have hitherto maintained Pāli to have been the language spoken by Gautama, and this opinion was supported by Prof. Childers; Prof. Kuhn holds it to have been the dialect spoken in Mālava in the time of Asoka, while Prof. Kern, of Leyden, thinks it is decidedly later than any dialect of even that date, and that it is probably an artificial language developed entirely among Buddhist ecclesiastics. To have this question settled as decisively as that of the origin of Sinhalese has now been would be of the first importance for the religious history of India.

A COPY of the earliest known History of Dr. Faustus, from which it is supposed all the mass of popular literature concerning that hero has been derived, has recently been found in the Academy Library at Buda-Pest. Hitherto only one copy of this early work, which was printed at Frankfort-a.-M. in 1587, was known to exist. It was preserved in the Imperial Library at Vienna. The copy now found is unfortunately in a very dilapidated condition. The title is wanting, and several of the leaves; still there seems to be no doubt that it is really the original work.

WE understand that of Captain Burnaby's *Ride to Khiva* not less than one thousand copies, in addition to the large number required by the other libraries, have been taken by Mr. Mudie alone; that the first and second editions of the work were exhausted in a week, and that a third edition is also already nearly exhausted. A fourth edition is in the press.

A NEW "humorous and critical" weekly paper is to appear immediately, under the title of *Yorick*.

IN the *Fortnightly Review* Mr. Chamberlain tells a little about Lapland, and a good deal about the Gothenburg System, which is largely applied in Sweden, and is to be extended to the capital next October. It is interesting to learn that a large percentage of the cases of drunkenness in Gothenburg occur among peasants who come in on market days from villages under a régime of total prohibition. Mr. Freeman's paper on the "Law of Honour" is provokingly incomplete and one-sided. He observes that it is in its origin the rule of behaviour which the members of a military oligarchy adopt for the regulation of their behaviour within their own class, and he makes the amusing suggestion that the first conspicuous person to adopt this rule was William Rufus, who impressed his contemporaries by his "magnanimity." But he refuses to see that this rule does not lose its special character (which would have repaid closer analysis) when its application is extended beyond the class with whom it arises, and that all standards of conduct are at first applied within the narrow limits of a natural or artificial community. M. A. Ward treats of Ruiz, the archpriest, with several well-translated extracts. Mr. Harrison's article on "Cross and Crescent" is a forcible statement of the moral and political difficulties of a nineteenth-century crusade. Prof. Bryce's article on "Russia and Turkey" expounds, with such authority as per-

sonal enquiries on the spot can give, the considerations which would be completely reassuring if thoroughly reasonable politicians had complete control of affairs.

In the *Contemporary Review*, Mr. R. Bosworth Smith treats the same question with beautiful tact and candour, pointing out how Islam, in its laxest form, has redeemed the Turkish race, as a whole, from their original passion for drink. His conclusion is that, though the Turks must be made to set their house in order, the process need not and should not be a step towards turning them out of it. Mr. Gladstone's article on "The Hellenic Factor in the Eastern Question" recalls the policy of Canning for our present guidance, and shows that the Greek kingdom has made great progress in education and fair progress in trade. The most interesting point among many touched upon in Mr. Newton's article on "Greek Inscriptions" is the cost of the details of the Erechtheum. It seems, a young man guiding two horses cost nearly 10*l.*; fluting a column about 16*l.* In his third article on "Automatism and Evolution," Dr. Elam gives some interesting quotations to show that Prof. Huxley's confidence in Mr. Darwin's theories seems to have grown faster than the evidence whereby they are supported. Dr. Appleton's second article on Mr. Matthew Arnold and Metaphysic seeks to show that in his later writings, *Literature and Dogma* and *God and the Bible*, this writer, by not methodically following out the idea of a social consciousness or "better self," partly divulged in his earlier works, but condescending to sympathise with the Philistines' contempt for metaphysic, lapses himself into a very bad sort of metaphysic. This result is in part "the Nemesis of his want of method." Mr. Arnold's later ideas respecting conduct and happiness, and his formula of the "Eternal Power, not ourselves, which makes for righteousness," are dissected with a view to expose their inadequacy as expressions of a correctly interpreted experience. Particularly elaborate is the examination of the doctrine of the Eternal as professing to stand for a complete religious idea, such as is illustrated, for example, in the Hebrew conception of the Deity. Mr. Arnold's fallacies are classified by help of Bacon's illusions or *idola*, the essentially verbal process by which the dominant formula of the Eternal is built up being referred to "idols of the marketplace" or illusions of language. The essay closes with a well-merited tribute to the worth of all but the logical qualities of Mr. Arnold's work.

In the *Cornhill Magazine* R. L. S. discourses with sarcastic sympathy of Charles, Duke of Orleans, and succeeds in conveying a very distinct idea of that quaint and pathetic personage, who made his castle at Blois for the last twenty years of his life one of the pleasantest places to live in that have ever been: it would have been interesting to hear a little more of the grounds of his strange political reputation among contemporaries. E. W. G. discusses Abraham Cowley rather as a predecessor of Dryden than as a continuator of Donne and Crashaw.

In *Macmillan* the Rev. C. Tennyson Turner contributes a charming sonnet on Letty's Globe. Matthew Arnold reprints the "New Sirens," whose disappearance in the suppressed volume of 1849 has been regretted by Mr. Swinburne and others. Mrs. Ball calls attention to early mediæval painting in Southern Italy, which was for a time in advance of Tuscan art. A. Schwartz gives some truly delightful specimens of German cradle-songs on the Nativity. A Servian Statesman assures us that the Eastern Christians would be quite satisfied if the Porte would delegate the administration of Thessaly and Epirus to Greece, and that of the rest of Turkey in Europe to Prince Milan and his nominees.

In *Fraser* there are some notes on the Turk, whence we learn, among other things, that the "High Turk," by successive importations from

Circassia, has become nearly the purest Circassian in Europe. There is also an article on Eyes and Eye-Glasses, full of clear concrete curious observation, whence we learn, among other things, that the late Charles Dickens never used glasses except to drive through a London fog. The Chaplain of the *Discovery's* paper on "Our Arctic Voyage" contains the fullest account we have yet had of the odd discomforts and gaieties of life on the ice-bound ships.

In *Temple Bar*, beside a very good account of the eighteen thousand washerwomen of the Manzanares, headed "Toilers of the River," there is a translation from Turguenief, "How Russians Meet Death;" and a paper on George Stubbs, R.A., from sources not known or used by Redgrave in his *Century of English Painters*.

Blackwood has a *précis* of Prejevalsky's *Mongolia and Northern Tibet*; also an ingenious ghost-story, "The Secret Chamber."—Canon Rawlinson concludes his papers on "Early Civilisation" in the *Leisure Hour*, with a recapitulation of his grounds for holding that the Septuagint chronology leaves room for all that is hitherto known of any of them.—The *Atlantic Monthly* contains a very good sketch by Mark Twain, "The Canvasser's Tale", of his uncle who collected echoes; and Lowell's Fourth of July Centennial ode.—The *International Review* contains the "Origin of Parliamentary Representation in England," by Mr. Freeman, which sets forth the modification which his views have undergone in consequence of Prof. Stubbs' *Constitutional History*; also an account of P. G. Hamerton, which contains the fullest information which one can expect in a dictionary of contemporaries.—The *Melbourne Review* begins a series of papers, by Sir C. Gavan Duffy, on the History of Victoria. There is an article on Sir Richard Hanson, which deals mainly with his books.

We are favoured with a copy of the first part of the first volume of the *Transactions* of the Cymmrodorion Society of London, a brotherhood numbering at least 150 members, banded together for the cultivation of the Welsh language and literature, the publication of Welsh MSS., and the preservation of Welsh antiquities, as well as socially for the promotion of friendship and good understanding among the Welsh in London. This society was originally founded in 1751, and among its officers and members were Richard Morris, of the Navy Pay Office, its president, editor of two editions of the Welsh Bible; his brother Lewis Morris, poet, philologist, and antiquary; and Goronwy Owen, its appointed bard. It appears to have taken an active part in encouraging the publication of Welsh literature, and to have assisted in the original establishment of the Welsh School, which was removed in the middle of this century from Gray's Inn Road to Ashford. About the beginning of this century, after having been brought into difficulties and dissolution by over-liberal literary undertakings, it was revived for a time: but it now rises, phoenix-like, from the ashes of its predecessors, with the experience of their mistakes, and under most hopeful auspices, with a strong council, and excellent names among the corresponding members, and an editor, able, zealous, and patriotic—the Rev. Robert Jones, Vicar of All Saints, Rotherhithe; and it is a happy augury of success and continuance that the first contribution to the present volume is a touching elegiac poem by Lewis Morris, the grandson of the antiquary and bard, who was one of the original members, to the memory of the Rev. Goronwy Owen; that the poetic tribute to a fellow bard of his grandsire is one whom his compatriots will not suffer to anonymise his authorship of "Songs of Two Worlds" and the "Epic of Hades." The best articles in the part before us, after this, are Prof. Peter's on "Welsh Particles" and F. W. Rudler's, late of the University College of Wales, on "Natural History Museums," in which

latter are some very valuable suggestions as to combining a *local* with a *general* department in all such. We cannot help thinking that considerable condensation of the proceedings of the National Eisteddfod at Wrexham in 1876 (pp. 42-83) might have allowed space for another article of like value and less ephemeral interest than the chronicles of local speeches, mostly overflowing with Welsh patriotism and *amour propre*. The most practical and wholesome of these was by Mr. John Rhys, in declining for the third time to adjudicate a prize for "the best Scientific Account of the Origin and Growth of the Welsh Language." Reviews of books and notices of forthcoming books fill up the number, with the addition of a second section illustrative of the history of the Cymmrodorion (pp. 1-52). The Council are now publishing, as their first work, *The Welsh-Englyshe Dictionary of William Salesbury*, a work that throws considerable light on the Welsh and English of the period of Henry VIII.

#### MR. CHANDOS WREN HOSKYNs.

THE death of Mr. Chandos Wren Hoskyns, which occurred in London on the 28th ult., demands some notice at our hands. He was the second son of the late Sir Hungerford Hoskyns, Bart., and a lineal descendant of Serjeant Hoskyns, whose "too much wit" cost him his liberty, but won for him the eulogies of Selden, Donne, and Ben Jonson. Mr. Hoskyns was born in 1812, and educated at Shrewsbury and at Oxford, where he gained a second-class in classics in 1834. He then entered at the Inner Temple, sparing some time from his legal studies for general reading and occasional contributions to the periodical press. His marriage, in 1837, with the sole heiress of C. R. Wren, Esq., of Wroxall Abbey, Warwickshire, brought with it the care of a landed estate, and diverted his mind to agriculture, which thenceforth became the chief subject of his pen. His first published work was *A Short Enquiry into the History of Agriculture*, an essay displaying much research, and the same freshness of style which marked his numerous contributions to the *Gardeners' Chronicle*. This was followed by his best-known work, *Talpa: or, the Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, wherein he recounts with infinite humour his experiences of the stiff soil of Warwickshire, and the stiffer prejudices of his farming neighbours. Many of the quaint illustrations in this popular little book, although etched by George Cruikshank, were sketched in pencil by Mrs. Hoskyns, at her husband's suggestion. In 1862 Mr. Hoskyns succeeded his father in the possession of the Herefordshire estates, and in 1860 was elected M.P. for Hereford. In spite of an agreeable manner, much fluency of speech and aptitude for business, he failed to make any special impression on the House, nor, indeed, did he take a very prominent part in the debates upon land tenure which occupied so much of the attention of the last Parliament. His pen, however, was not idle. He contributed to the *Cobden Club Essays* a paper on the Land Laws of England which provoked much discussion, and in a popular pamphlet advocated with characteristic energy his views upon primogeniture and the evil results of entail. He was an active member of the Society of Arts and of the Royal Agricultural Society, an admirable lecturer, brilliant talker, and most pleasant companion. If his writings occasionally suffer from a redundancy of metaphor and illustration, they are for that very reason the more exact reflection of their author, who, had he been less clever, would have been more successful.

CHARLES J. ROBINSON.

#### NOTES OF TRAVEL.

A LETTER has been received by the Church Missionary Society from Mr. G. J. Clark, dated Mpwapwa, September 3, announcing the arrival at that place (200 miles from the coast) of himself

and Mr. O'Neill with the first caravan. The people of the district proved to be quiet and industrious in their habits, and the local "Sultan" gave the visitors a hearty welcome. By about the middle of October it was expected that the other parties would have all arrived at Mpwapwa, which will form an important intermediate station for the Nyanza expedition.

MESSRS. THACKER, VINING AND Co., of Bombay, have just published *Notes on the History and Antiquities of Chaul and Bassein*, by J. Gerson da Cunha. The volume is illustrated with seventeen photographs, nine lithographic plates, and a map. The ancient city of Chaul, we may mention, is now called Revadandā, and is about thirty miles south-east of Bombay, while the island of Bassein is twenty-nine miles distant therefrom.

THE Government printer at Melbourne has published, by authority, *Descriptive Notes on Papuan Plants*, in three parts, by Baron Ferd. von Müller. In the first essay the author endeavours to elucidate some Papuan plants brought from two localities, previously unexamined, by Mr. McLeay's expedition. The second deals with material furnished by the Rev. S. Macfarlane, and brought from the Baxter and Fly Rivers; while the third is devoted to specimens supplied by the same gentleman and Mr. A. Goldie.

In January will be published *Letters from Africa*, descriptive of trading life in western and central Africa, by Mr. John Whitford. These letters are, we believe, chiefly reprints from the *Porcupine*.

WE regret to announce the death of Mr. Louis A. Lucas, the African traveller, at the early age of twenty-five. He reached the Equatorial Provinces in the month of June last, but his escort proving too weak to allow him to penetrate further into the interior, he returned to Khartoum, en route to Suez, intending to reorganise his expedition and proceed by way of Zanzibar to the Congo. After repeated attacks of fever, he left Khartoum on October 26, but died on the Red Sea, near Jeddah, on his way back, having abandoned all idea of further exploration.

THE conditions of the ice in the seas round Spitzbergen appear to have been unusually favourable for navigation during the past summer, and several of the Norwegian fishers have been able to reach portions of the Arctic Basin which, as far as it is known, have never before been visited. In the *Tromsøposten* an interesting report by Johann Kjelsen, master of the yacht *Johanne Maria*, has newly been given. In July Kjelsen having reached Moffen Island, off the northern coast of Spitzbergen, steered thence due north without coming on ice. Returning southward he coasted in an easterly direction along the north side of North-East-Land, doubled Cape Smyth in 28° E. below the Storöen, and sailed round these islands on the eastern side of them. Here, at a distance of from four to five miles (perhaps Norwegian miles of 9·8 to a degree), he saw land of from 300 to 400 feet in height lying in a direction from east to south. This land was also seen by Captain Niels Johannsen, of Tromsø. From the Storöen Kjelsen returned to Cape Smyth in the middle of August, and thence, accompanied by the schooner *Nordland*, Captain Ed. Johannsen, steered straight north, and kept on this course for a day and a half. The atmosphere was foggy, but Kjelsen believes that he reached about 81° 30' N. lat.; the water was everywhere open and free of ice, the sea running high, and the current drifting strongly to eastward.

THE Verein für die Deutsche Nordpolarfahrt, in Bremen, has newly issued a bulletin continuing the publication of the reports from the German West Siberian Expedition. It contains a description of the isthmus of the Siberian tundra which lies at the eastern base of the Ural chain, between the mouth of the Obi and the Bay of Kara; this line was examined partly with a

view to ascertain the practicability of forming a canal across it, which would save the long detour into the Arctic Sea round the Samoiede peninsula. This scheme, however, is pronounced impracticable. The report is full of interesting descriptions of the Samoiedes, the tundra landscape, limits of vegetation, and animal life.

FROM Messrs. Tinsley we have received two popularly written and very readable books of travel:—*The East; being a Narrative of Personal Impressions of a Tour in Egypt, Palestine, and Syria, with numerous references to the Manners and Present Condition of the Turks, and to current Events*, by William Young Martin, takes us over the well-trodden and familiar tourist route to Cairo and the Pyramids, Jaffa, Jerusalem, the Dead Sea, Damascus, and Beyrout. There is nothing in the narrative that is at all new, but it conveys in a pleasant way the impressions left on the mind of an intelligent British traveller who is no specialist. To justify the second portion of the title, a few pages of platitudes about the Turks and their atrocities are appended to the volume. *Curiosities of Travel, or Glimpses of Nature*, by Charles Armar Wilkins, is a series of well-chosen extracts from the works of the best travellers, describing the scenes of the Polar world, the Alps and glaciers, steppes and deserts, caverns, volcanoes and earthquakes, and the ocean, woven together into a popular account of these features and phenomena. The gems of description sometimes contrast favourably with their setting, and it is often a relief to pass from the author to his authorities, but as a whole the book is a very interesting and useful one, and its deductions are sound.

#### THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

##### V.

#### The Outbreak of Scurvy.

It would have been far better if the discussion on the subject of the outbreak of scurvy in the late Arctic Expedition could have been deferred until full information, including the Reports of the medical officers and of commanders of sledge parties, was before the public. But the reckless mis-statements that have been published make this impossible, for unless they are contradicted the most erroneous impressions will be formed. It has been alleged that the pemican was salted; that there was an insufficient supply of preserved potatoes; that there was no lime-juice on the sledges; that the allowance of salt was one ounce and a half a day for each man while travelling; that the men were expected to drag 400 lbs. each; and that the commanders of sledges neglected the instructions they received. The whole of these assertions are untrue; and some of them, such as the stories about the salted pemican, the allowance of salt, and the weights to be dragged, are too ridiculous to need refutation. The statement that the officers in command of sledges neglected the instructions they received respecting the health of those entrusted to their care, which appeared in the *Sanitary Record*, is not only without any foundation in fact, but is an aspersion on the professional reputations of able and gallant men which deserves the strongest reprehension.

While awaiting the full and complete information that will be available as soon as the official Reports are published, it seems desirable to indicate the considerations which should really have weight, and the line of argument which most probably will lead to just conclusions respecting the outbreak of scurvy.

When the Arctic Expedition was fitted out, the only experience could be derived from the work of former enterprises of the same kind; and accordingly the best precedents were carefully followed, as regards the victualling, the winter arrangements, the sledge equipments, and the diet of the travelling parties. Taking the expedition of 1850-51 as a model, it was known that extended parties had been away travelling for sixty days and

upwards, and that only one—that of McClintock, which was absent eighty-three days—obtained any fresh meat. No lime-juice was taken on the sledges, and yet there was no scurvy. It was believed, and rightly believed, with reference to the knowledge we then had, that if the precedents of the expedition of 1850-51 were carefully followed there would be the same exemption from scurvy.

Accordingly, as between the Arctic Expeditions of 1850-51 and 1875-76 the scale of victualling on board was practically identical, the system of winter routine was identical, the ventilation was as carefully attended to, the same amount of exercise was enforced during the winter, the men were kept equally happy and amused, and the sledge equipments were identical. The *Alert* and *Discovery* were, it is true, not so well adapted for wintering, owing to the space inevitably occupied by the engine-room, and to the absence of a warming apparatus, and of a drying-room apart from the living-deck; but these disadvantages were ably provided against to a great extent, and practically no ill-effects were felt from them. As regards the sledging arrangements, several improvements were introduced in 1876, so that in some respects they were better than those of former expeditions. In previous expeditions no lime-juice was taken on the sledges. In 1876 the northern division took four quart-bottles of lime juice, sufficient to supply the sick; all the later depot sledges took lime-juice, and the eastern division had a large depot of lime-juice to fall back upon in Polar Bay. In previous expeditions rum was served out for the mid-day meal. In 1876 tea was substituted, the allowance of rum was reduced, and it was only served out at night. As regards weights, those established in former expeditions were 220 lbs. to 240 lbs. per man, on leaving the ship. By giving this subject the closest and most careful attention, the officers of 1876 succeeded in making a slight reduction.

Some deplorable nonsense has been published on the subject of the teetotallers. The facts are as follows. One teetotaller, named Malley, was very severely frost-bitten during the autumn, and consequently was unable to join any of the extended sledge-parties. He did a good deal of useful sledging-work in short trips in the spring, but was never tried by the really severe work, and consequently escaped the scurvy. Adam Ayles, another teetotaller, and as fine a fellow as ever stepped, was attacked by scurvy, though slightly. The two other teetotallers were attacked by scurvy in a very aggravated form. On the other hand, not one of the officers was a teetotaller, and not one was ever in the sick list for scurvy. Several men, who liked their glass of grog, also escaped the scurvy entirely. Of the three men of the northern division who, with Captain Markham, held out to the last, and dragged the sledge alongside the *Alert*, not one was a teetotaller. All the men of the Expedition were temperate and abstemious; and the truth of course is that there was really no difference between the temperate men and the teetotallers.

It will thus have been seen that, in the organisation of the late Arctic Expeditions, former precedents were carefully studied and generally followed, while in a few instances they were improved upon. As in all these particulars, and especially in the diet, the arrangements were identical with those of the expedition of 1850-51, which had no scurvy, it is quite obvious that the original exciting cause of the outbreak of scurvy in 1876 must be looked for elsewhere. We must seek for it, not in what was identical in the circumstances, but in what was different.

This difference is not far to seek. The great danger to health in Arctic service, apart from diet, arises from the long period of darkness to which the men are exposed. There has never been any doubt that the prolonged absence of the sun, with the attendant damp and confined air which are inevitable, is injurious to health. The injurious effects have been warded off by attention

to diet and exercise, and by an admirably conceived winter routine; while usually those effects have been almost entirely dissipated by the influence of the sun after its return. Former naval Arctic expeditions have generally wintered in about latitude  $74^{\circ}$  or  $75^{\circ}$ , where the sun is only absent for some ninety-three days, and where there is never total darkness even on the shortest day. Moreover, the sun returned on February 3 or 4, and the extended travelling parties did not leave the ships until April, so that the men had two months to recover from the effects of the winter, before their severe work began.

The members of the expedition of 1876 were exposed to very different and far more dangerous conditions. Instead of ninety-three days they had to endure the absence of the sun for 142 days, or half as long again; while the darkness was far more intense. During three months the darkness is greater in  $82^{\circ} 27' N.$  than it is during the darkest day in  $75^{\circ} N.$  This prolonged darkness of course involves prolonged exposure to inevitable damp, confined air, and extreme cold. The sun did not return until February 29, yet the extended sledge-parties started as early as their predecessors—namely, in the beginning of April. Consequently, although they had endured a period of darkness half as long again, yet they had only one month, instead of two, in which to recover after the return of the sun.

This great difference between the circumstances of the expedition of 1875 and those of its predecessors no doubt accounts for the outbreak of scurvy. Having been exposed to far more serious dangers to health during the darkness, they yet started at the same time on their long journeys, and undertook to be away as many days, and in all respects to do the same work.

No blame can be attached to anyone for having followed former precedents too closely. Like all other people, Arctic explorers can only learn by experience; and we now know that the conditions to be encountered in the Polar regions are different from those which had formerly to be provided against. In  $82^{\circ} 27' N.$  the season of travelling should be curtailed, the time of starting should be in May instead of April, and the period of absence must in future be reduced. With these and other precautions, which will no doubt suggest themselves when the matter has been thoroughly considered, there is no reason to fear a recurrence of the calamity, in any future expedition, which so enhanced the difficulties of the explorers of 1876, and therefore added to the glory of their achievements.

CLEMENTS R. MARKHAM.

#### SELECTED BOOKS.

##### General Literature.

- CARR, J. W. *Comyns. The Abbey Church of St. Albans.* Seeley. 18s.  
 CLEMENT DE RIS, L. *Les Amateurs d'Autrefois.* Paris: Plon.  
 DOWDEN, E. *Poems.* Henry S. King & Co.  
 KINGSLEY (Charles), his Letters and Memories of his Life. Henry S. King & Co. 36s.  
 KLEIN, J. L. *Geschichte d. Drama's.* XIII. Bd. Das engl. Drama. 2. Bd. Leipzig: Weigel. 18 M.  
 MAHAFFY, J. P. *Rambles and Studies in Greece.* Macmillan. 8s. 6d.  
 OLIPHANT, Mrs. *The Makers of Florence.* Macmillan. 21s.  
 SMILES, S. *Life of a Scotch Naturalist.* Murray. 10s. 6d.  
 SWEET, H. *An Anglo-Saxon Reader in Prose and Verse.* Clarendon Press. 8s. 6d.

##### History.

- BERNARD, A., et A. BRUEL. *Recueil des chartes de l'Abbaye de Cluny.* T. 1. Paris: Imp. Nat.  
 BONNEFOS, D. *Benjamin Du Plan, député général des Synodes des églises réformées de France (1688-1769).* Paris: Sandoz et Fischbacher. 3 fr. 50 c.  
 BUEHLER, H. *Die pylaisch-delphische Amphiktyonie.* München: Ackermann. 5 M.  
 FELDZUG d. Prinzen Eugen v. Savoyen. 1. Serie. 2. Bd. Wien: Gerold's Sohn. 20 M.  
 HEGEL, K. Th. *Der oesterreichische Erbfolgestreit u. die Kaiserwahl Karls VII.* Nördlingen: Beck. 8 M.  
 HILLY, A. *Histoire de la formation territoriale des Etats de l'Europe centrale.* Paris: Hachette. 15 fr.  
 MASON, A. J. *The Persecution of Diocletian.* Bell & Sons.  
 SCHMIDLER, W. F. C. *Geschichte d. Königr. Griechenland.* Heidelberg: Winter. 8 M.  
 VÉTAULT, A. *Charlemagne.* Tours: Mame.

#### Physical Science, &c.

- HANNOVER, A. *La rétine de l'homme et des vertébrés.* Copenhague: Hæst. 25 fr.  
 HEER, O. *Beiträge zur Jura-Flora Ostbairiens u. d. Amurlandes.* St. Petersburg.  
 KELLER, C. *Untersuchungen üb. die Anatomie u. Entwicklungsgeschichte einiger Spongien d. Mittelmeeres.* Basel: Georg. 3 M. 20 Pf.  
 KOEHLER, J. *Statistique internationale des grandes villes.* 1<sup>re</sup> Sect. T. 1. Budapest: Ráth. 12 M.  
 MANNHARDT, W. *Wald- u. Feldkulte.* 2. Thl. Antike Wald- u. Feldkulte aus nordeurop. Ueberlieferg. erläutert. Berlin: Bornträger. 10 M.

#### Philology, &c.

- ALBRECHT, *Chronologie orientalischer Völker.* Hrg. v. C. E. Sachau. 1. Hülft. Leipzig: Brockhaus. 13 M.  
 DOUSE, P. *Le Marchant. Grimm's Law: a Study.* Trübner.  
 KÄLDÄSÄ'S *Çakuntala.* The Bengali Recension. Ed. R. Pischel. Kiel: Schwes. 12 M.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

##### THE BUILDING OF MYKENE.

Ventnor: Dec. 1, 1876.

In the interesting letter of Mr. Sayce on Mykene, printed a week or two since in the ACADEMY, the writer adopts what I think will be found to be an error in Dr. Schliemann's conclusions as to the building of the city—i.e., that it was built at various periods. I remember perfectly well the piece of wall to which Dr. Schliemann alludes, having photographed the ruins from that side; but it was clearly not an earlier wall, but a later reparation, and struck me at the time as probably a hasty rebuilding of a wall which had been breached, possibly in a siege, and which the citizens, unable to devote the time that restoration in the original style would have demanded, had restored with stones not faced and fitted as was the material of the original walls, but as well as the time and the circumstances permitted. This was shown, I remember thinking at the time, by the breach being wider at the top than at the bottom, whereas if it had been an old fragment the contrary would have been the case.

Dr. Schliemann seems to have missed in his examination of the walls of Mykene one great fact of its construction—that it is of the neolithic period, no trace of anything but stone-working being visible. This fact, to which I called the attention of archaeologists several years ago, is confirmed by the most valuable discoveries just made by Dr. Schliemann of bronze and flint weapons at Mykene, but none of iron.

This is, indeed, the distinguishing character of the true archaic polygonal work, and at once separates it from mere modern imitation like that on the *Pyx* at Athens, in which the use of the cutting tool is clear and unmistakable. After a long and careful examination of all the polygonal work in the Argolide as well as that in Italy and Crete, I was able to say that in no case of work historically determinable as archaic—i.e., traditionally ascribed to the Pelasgi or Cyclopes—was there any use of cutting tools, and even the lion relief at Mykene is evidently done by a combination of drilling and trituration.

The enormous lintel of the treasury at Mykene, and much of the wall, which is built of conglomerate and not polygonal but parallelopipedal, is still worked in the same way, the finishing being apparently done by rubbing one stone upon another. It is to be hoped that Dr. Schliemann's researches may turn up either at Mykene or the later Argos some example of the tools, doubtless of stone, by which the stonework was done. The finding only of flint arrows is certainly a most valuable archaeological indication, and it is to be hoped that this wonderful find may lead to the complete exploration of the Argolide, the cradle of Hellenic art and civilisation.

W. J. STILLMAN.

#### DELACROIX'S CORRESPONDENCE: AN APPEAL.

Paris: December 4, 1876.

M. G. Monod has already announced the publication by Messrs. Charpentier of the first volume of the *Memoirs* of Philarète Chasles. I return to it to-day for different reasons from those assigned by

your excellent correspondent. This volume contains an unpublished letter of Eugène Delacroix to Alfred de Musset, and a highly characteristic portrait of this great artist, who was his college friend, and with whom he kept up cordial relations till his death. Now I am myself on the point of finishing the MS. of a large work on the Correspondence of Eugène Delacroix, of which I have already given a few specimens in the ACADEMY for November 28, 1874. Before handing over this work to my publisher, who is growing impatient and is with good reason complaining of my delays, I am anxious once again to beg English amateurs to communicate any letters of Eugène Delacroix, or any information with regard to his stay in England in 1824, and thereby to do me a high service. The English school produced a strong impression upon him, clearly perceptible in his work till his visit to Morocco, which was his journey to Damascus. Did he break off all relations with the artists or amateurs who gave him a warm reception? Did some English amateur collect any of his paintings or water-colours, his etchings or his lithographs, during or after his stay in London? That is the question I would ask once more.

Philarète Chasles passed his first youth in England, where he was in hiding from the fabulously inept and barbarous pursuit of the police of the Bourbons. He was but fourteen, and was accused of conspiracy! He gives curious notes on the English society in which he moved in 1817 and 1818. I have to deal only with what relates to artists: for instance, "un artiste anglais très-habile dans l'art de graver la pierre dure, vieil ami de Fox, et, comme la plupart des artistes, radical déterminé, Thomas Brown." Thomas Brown presented him to Ugo Foscolo, whose house was the rendez-vous of many oddities and many celebrities. I would particularly commend to your notice a conversation on Chateaubriand at the table of the old publisher Baylis, between him, Thomas Brown, and the architect Porden—"Mommie satirique, au corps sec, à l'esprit sec, à la culotte de soie noire, tombant en plis longitudinaux sur de petits genoux grêles; totalement et parfaitement pointu, intelligence et figure, raison et goût, habitudes et talent, paroles et génie." There is also a curious appreciation of the sentiments of George the Fourth on the arts considered as a means of government. These *Memoirs* are considered very satirical. They have above all a tone of passionate truthfulness and violent defiance to which we are not accustomed in France, but which, for my own part, I find both instructive and touching.

PH. BURY.

#### APPOINTMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK.

- SATURDAY, Dec. 9.—3 P.M. Crystal Palace and Saturday Popular Concerts.  
 8 P.M. Musical Artists' Society (Royal Academy of Music).  
 MONDAY, Dec. 11.—5 P.M. London Institution: "Weather Knowledge," by R. H. Scott.  
 8 P.M. Anthropological Institute: "The Ethnology of the Germans. Part 1.—Saxons of Nether Saxony," by H. H. Howorth; "Kitchen Midden," by W. Laws; "Classification of Arrow-heads," and "On Prehistoric Objects at Fortakewart," by W. J. Knowles.  
 8 P.M. Colonial Institute: "Canada, as I remember it, and as it is," by the Rev. Dr. Donald Fraser.  
 8 P.M. Monday Popular Concert.  
 TUESDAY, Dec. 12.—8 P.M. Civil Engineers: Discussion on the Chalk Water System: "On the Testing of Portland Cement," by T. J. Mann.  
 8.30 P.M. Geographical: "On the North Circumpolar Sea," by Capt. Sir G. S. Naros; "Sledge Journey towards the Pole," by Capt. A. H. Markham.  
 WEDNESDAY, Dec. 13.—8 P.M. Society of Arts: "A new Process of Printing a Number of Colours at One Time," by H. Meyerslein.  
 8 P.M. Handelsgesellschaft's *Fridolin*, Exeter Hall.  
 THURSDAY, Dec. 14.—7 P.M. London Institution: "Mesmerism, Odylism, Table-turning and Spiritualism," II., by Dr. W. B. Carpenter.  
 8 P.M. Mathematical: "The Orthogonal Transformation, and additional Notes on Transformation of Elliptic Functions," by Prof. Clifford; "On the Conditions of Perpendicularity in a Parallelopipedal System," by Prof. H. J. Smith; "On the Condition for the Existence of a Surface cutting at right Angles a given Set of Lines," by Prof. Cayley.  
 8 P.M. Historical: "On Domestic Every-day Life, &c., in this Country, from the earliest Period," II., by G. Harris; "History of the Counts of Cilly," by the Rev. A. H. Wratlaw.

8.30 P.M. Antiquaries.  
FRIDAY, Dec. 15.—7.30 P.M. Sacred Harmonic Society, Exeter Hall (St. Paul).  
8 P.M. Philological: "Common Tamil," by R. B. Swinton; "On Names of Birds," by David Ross.

## SCIENCE.

## ARABIAN PHILOSOPHY IN THE TENTH CENTURY A.D.

*Die Philosophie der Araber im X. Jahrhundert n. Chr.* Von Fr. Dieterici, Professor an der Universität Berlin. Erster Theil: Einleitung und Makrokosmos. (Leipzig: Hinrichs, 1876.)

IN 1858 Prof. Dieterici, of Berlin, published, under the title of *Streit zwischen Thier und Mensch* ("Dispute between Men and Beasts"), a German translation of an Eastern apologue. The dispute in question forms part of the 21st section in an extensive Arabic manuscript, comprising in fifty-one books a sort of encyclopaedia of what was known or supposed to be known by the *savants* of the Caliphate in the tenth century of our era. In five subsequent publications Dieterici has translated or paraphrased the contents of this huge work. The present volume is the first half of a general summary of the results thus presented in detail. An introduction of about 160 pages describes the antecedents of what is conventionally termed Arabian Philosophy; and about sixty pages follow with a *résumé* of the nine grades of emanation in which God passes from his unity into a changeable sublunary world with its elemental products. A succeeding half-volume is to present in outline the converse process of the Return—the rise to union in God by the means of knowledge and right conduct.

Amid the wild waste of words which makes up so large a portion of the German philosophical productions of the present day, Dieterici's book is a welcome contribution. Its substantial merit grows from the fact that philosophers seldom know Arabian, and that Semitic scholars are not much given to the study of philosophy. Avicenna is known from very little more than the digest given by Shahrastani, and from the barbarous versions of the Scholastic Latin; and the same is true of Averroes. Here in Dieterici we get for the first time a tolerably distinct likeness of the extent to which the Moslems of Persia had succeeded in appropriating Greek science, and manipulating it for their own ends. In such a report as his we do not, of course, look for many new truths. The materials were mostly old; what was added to the inherited stock of knowledge came at a later date than our encyclopaedia. But if the materials were well-used, the cement was fresh: and the structure, as a whole, unique. The encyclopaedia of the "Brethren of Purity," from which Dieterici has drawn his account, began with a theory of numbers, not very scientific in its character, and thence advanced to an exposition of logical matters: from these topics it proceeded to a physical, which was largely a metaphysical, doctrine of the universe, culminating in the nature of man. In human nature it dwelt especially on the rational soul, its relations to the world and to God: thus treading on the borders of theosophy,

where it dealt at length with prophecy and the moral sovereignty of the world. A concluding book discussed subjects even less susceptible of exact methods: it comprised a theory of love-potions and talismans. Throughout breathes an ethical and religious spirit. The aim of the work is not knowledge only, but also right conduct. As the authors say, if it is the work of religion to heal those that are sick, it is the work of philosophy to strengthen those that are whole.

Time would fail to tell of all that is touched upon in the introductory pages. They are suggestive and interesting, if not always carrying conviction: and open out lines of thought leading far beyond Arabian philosophy. First come in outline the theories of the end and origin of the universe held by mythologist, monotheist, philosopher, and theosophist. A chapter of much interest is devoted to the contrast between Aryan and Semite in the modes of thought and sentiment, as reflected and preserved in their several languages. A few words on Origen form the prelude to a sketch of the Eastern Church up to the days of Mohammed—a not very pleasing picture of narrowness and bigotry within the Orthodox Church which drove the more liberal and scholarly minds in some cases beyond the pale of the Empire. By the seventh century a theology based upon Judaism and a science derived from Greece had thoroughly saturated the better minds in the lands adjacent to the Euphrates. This culture retired for a little while under the dominance of Islam: but scarcely two centuries after Mohammed one of the rationalising schoolmen of Bagdad boldly proclaimed doubt as the preliminary to all true knowledge. But philosophy did not long stand its ground; the patronage of the caliphs who persecuted the orthodox for their obstinacy was scarcely the right means of making the people rationally religious; and with the collapse of the Caliphate amid the warring sultans and emirs from Turkestan, the sun of liberal knowledge set in Eastern Islam. Of Mohammed himself Dieterici gives an account which does not deal with the prophet in a very reverent spirit, and disperses perhaps too much of the nimbus which idealism has drawn around him.

Of the authors not much can be told. Their work seems to have been written between 960 and 975 A.D., and it was soon read as far as Spain. Five hands are said to have been engaged in the work. The Society of True Friends, or Brethren of Purity, to which they belonged, had its head-quarters at Basra on the Persian Gulf. It comprised four grades, marked off by the advance in age and wisdom. The Divine Law, they said, requires forty properties in one person, or forty persons with accordant minds. Hence the union of those who, under the cover of an established religion, sought by the help of an older knowledge to purify the law of Mohammed from vulgar error and superstition, and to substitute a higher purity of life and understanding of the truth.

W. WALLACE.

*Keltische Briefe von Adolf Bacmeister, herausgegeben von Otto Keller.* (Strassburg: Karl J. Trübner. London: Trübner & Co.)

THIS is a neatly got up little volume which owes its existence to the late Herr Bacmeister's desire to see a knowledge of *ra Keltaká* more diffused among his countrymen than it at present is; but although his letters, which have been carefully collected and edited by his friend, are charming reading, his object, I fear, will not be attained by publishing them. Besides it is possible that the time is not yet come when the work of popularising Celtic philology can be done to advantage: it is true that the *Grammatica Celtica* contains the outlines of the laws which obtain in the Celtic languages, and enables us to compare them with others of the same family of speech; yet so much still remains to be done by way of filling in the details necessary to give Zeuss's outlines their full meaning and coherence, that one cannot proceed to work as Bacmeister has without exercising very great caution in his choice of instances, and this is exactly where his weakness betrays itself. Add to this that his combinations violate the rules of Celtic phonology, as when one reads, p. 17, "Ir. *fillim gl. tardo, lenteo, mg. foil langsam, foil Ruhe, stimmt äusserlich zum deutschen weilen=ruhen, zögern; allein dieses entstand aus got. hveila u.s.w. altnord. hvila ruhen, man müsste also einen sehr frühen Abfall des h und Uebergang in gallisches v=ir. f annehmen."* This would seem to commit him to deriving the Irish (as well as the German) forms from Gothic, or supposing that he considered Gothic *h*=an original *k* liable to be dropped in Celtic, the assumption of such a *k* which disappears in Irish is unwarranted. Similarly, p. 23, he does not seem to be aware of reasons for hesitating in connecting Welsh *ffrwd*, Ir. *sruth*, "a stream," with Sansk. *sravāmi*, Gr. *ptw*, Eng. *stream*. P. 72, he perpetuates an etymology which is to me quite incomprehensible—namely, when he assumes the Welsh *rianed*, "ladies" (the plural of *rian*), to stand for an impossible *rig-baned*, "mulieres nobiles." Unfortunately the whole book contains too many *rapprochements* of the same character; nevertheless, many of the letters are highly suggestive, and cannot fail to be instructive to those who know how to control the author's treatment of details.

J. RHYS.

## SCIENCE NOTES.

## PHYSIOLOGY.

*Presence of Vaso-motor Fibres in the Vagi.*—It has been ascertained by Rossbach and Quellhorst (*Verhandl. der phys.-med. Gesellsch. in Würzburg*, ix. p. 13) that electrical or mechanical stimulation of those branches of the vagus which enter the abdominal cavity with the oesophagus is followed by contraction of the blood-vessels supplying the abdominal viscera and a rise of arterial pressure. When the vagus is divided in the neck and its peripheral end stimulated, the heart stops beating, and the systemic blood-pressure sinks; but the effect is transient; for as soon as the stimulus has ceased to operate, the blood-pressure rises above its previous normal level. That this added elevation is altogether independent of the heart may be shown by irritating the divided vagus after its intra-cardiac terminations have been paralysed by

atropia. Under these circumstances, the heart's action is not arrested; yet the rise of blood-pressure nevertheless occurs. It may therefore be attributed to stimulation of vaso-motor fibres conveyed to the abdominal vessels in the trunk of the vagus; and the correctness of this explanation is proved by the fact that the phenomenon in question is no longer manifested after the oesophageal branches of the vagi have been cut.

*On the Relation of the Waking State to External Stimuli.*—The experimentum mirabile described by Kircher in the middle of the seventeenth century has of late years been made the starting-point of several interesting lines of research. In its original form, the experiment consists in tying down a cock to a table and drawing a straight line with a piece of chalk from the tip of his beak. The bird then remains motionless for a variable length of time, making no attempt to struggle or regain its freedom. Kircher's own explanation of the fact is fantastic: "cujus quidem rei ratio alia non est," he says, "nisi vehemens animalis imaginatio, quae lineam illam in pavimento ductam vincula sua, quibus ligatur, apprehendat." Czermak was the first to enquire into the matter in a systematic way. He confirmed the truth of Kircher's statements, and extended them to a great variety of birds. But he showed that, in order to obtain the desired effect, it was enough to hold the bird firmly down with the hands, preventing any voluntary movement of the head and neck. Bonds and chalk-line he found to be quite superfluous. In another set of experiments, the body of the fowl was fixed, while its head and neck were left at liberty; an indifferent object was then held close to its eyes; the same curious quiescence was induced, occasionally conjoined with phenomena of a cataleptic order. Czermak believed these singular results to be due to the development of a hypnotic state in birds, analogous to that occasionally observed under somewhat similar conditions in the human subject. Preyer's investigations included rabbits, a guinea-pig, and a squirrel, in addition to birds. He never succeeded in producing any condition at all like sleep. He rejected Czermak's explanation, and ascribed the immobility of the various animals experimented on to simple terror: the first impression of utter helplessness—of the futility of struggling—persisting in the creature's mind even after all restraint had ceased. Heubel (*Pflüger's Archiv*, xiv., 2 and 3) rejects the theories of all his predecessors. He gives reasons for rejecting them which tell more strongly against those of Kircher and Preyer than against that advanced by Czermak. Previous enquirers he believes to have witnessed only the first stage of the phenomenon—that stage which is most easily induced in animals of relatively high organisation. Cold-blooded vertebrates, such as the frog, may be reduced to a state of complete immobility at will; they will remain in a constrained position for hours, instead of seconds or minutes. This abolition of voluntary movement and of consciousness is nothing more than ordinary sleep. Pflüger has given many reasons for his belief that the waking state requires for its maintenance a continual stimulation of the higher nervous centres by impressions conveyed to them along the various centripetal nerve-fibres. By forcing an animal to remain motionless for a brief interval (without inflicting pain), and simultaneously excluding visual and auditory sensations from its brain, we suddenly deprive its nerve-centres of a large proportion of their accustomed stimuli. Accordingly, they are unable to remain awake, and their functional activity is only restored to them when they are roused by some impulse from without. Having satisfied himself in a variety of ways of the correctness of this explanation as applied to the phenomena exhibited by the frog, Heubel proceeds to extend his results to birds and mammals, and arrives at the conclusion that "forced sleep" will account for all the facts hitherto observed.

*Spirochaete Obermeieri.*—In connexion with Obermeier's remarkable discovery that the blood in relapsing fever is infested by a species of *Spirochaete*, it is worthy of note that the same organism has lately been found in considerable numbers by Manassein (*Centralblatt für die Med. Wiss.*, October 21, 1876) in the liquid exuding from a fistulous passage communicating with the antrum of Highmore; pus-cells and crystals of cholesterol were also present. The patient was in good health; examination of the saliva and the blood yielded negative results.

*Termination of Nerves in Tendon.*—The tendon of the sternoradialis muscle in the frog receives a nerve-trunk of some size near its point of insertion; the fibres form a network, and end in the tendon. By employing special methods of examination, Rollett (*Centralblatt*, October 21, 1876) has succeeded in demonstrating that the ultimate fibres terminate in structures which he terms "nerve-flakes," and which present many points of similarity to the motor end-plates in striated muscle. Their functional significance is doubtful. No reflex movement can be produced by stimulating the tendon; hence Rollett concludes that the nerve must consist of centrifugal fibres.

*Nature of the Paludal Miasm.*—Some very curious investigations on this subject have been published by Lanzi and Terrigi (abstract in *Centralblatt*, No. 40, 1876). In the endochrome of algae growing in the Campagna and Pontine Marshes, the former observer has discovered certain minute dark granules, which increase in number as the algae die and pass into decomposition. They belong to Cohn's group of pigmented sphaerobacteria (*Bacterium brunneum* of Schröter), and yield *Monilia penicillata* of Fries on cultivation. The so-called "pigment-granules" present in the liver, spleen, and blood of persons who have suffered from malarial diseases are identical with the above germs. By cultivating such granules from a human liver, Lanzi succeeded in obtaining a *Zoogloea*. On the basis of these observations, the writers construct a theory to account for the prevalence of malaria at certain seasons. The marshy pools formed in the Campagna during the winter months are found to swarm with algae, both green and colourless, in early spring. As summer approaches, the level of the water in these pools sinks, owing to evaporation, and great sheets of dead and decaying algae are exposed to the air. In these, the sphaerobacteria grow and multiply; they may be found in vast numbers in the air to a height of fifty centimetres above the surface of the marsh. Swept hither and thither by the wind, they excite malarial disease whenever they happen to penetrate into the human body. Similar theories concerning the nature of malarial infection have been advanced before, though not, perhaps, with so bold an array of experimental evidence to back them. But the experimental evidence in the present instance, even granting its truth, is insufficient to bear the weight of the superstructure founded upon it. Moreover, in view of the many fallacies that beset enquiries of this kind, the facts themselves will have to be repeatedly confirmed before they can be utilised for deductive purposes.

#### CHEMISTRY AND MINERALOGY.

*Meteoritic Iron.*—An interesting paper by MM. E. Guignet and G. Ozorio de Almeida has appeared in the *Comptes Rendus*, lxxxiii., 917, describing a meteoric iron from San Francisco, Province of Santa Catharina, Brazil. The specimen is nearly cubic in form and weighs about 400 grammes; the metal is white, with a tinge of yellow, and is unchanged even in moist air. A mean of several analyses shows it to have the composition:—

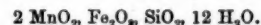
Iron	= 64
Nickel	= 36
	100

This meteorite is remarkable for containing so large a percentage of nickel, and for exhibiting Widmannstätten figures when etched; these appearances are not as a rule observed in metallic masses of meteoric origin, which contain a very considerable proportion of nickel. The discovery gains interest, moreover, from the statement made in the paper that this Brazilian nickel-iron is not found in an isolated condition, but is met with, so it is asserted, in the form of a layer in a terrestrial rock. The importance of such a fact, in its bearing on elucidating the singular occurrence of meteoric iron in basalt at Ovifak, Disko Island, Greenland, is manifest, and it is to be desired that the accuracy of this report be established by further inquiry.

*Pelagite.*—Prof. Church has examined (*The Mineralogical Magazine*, No. 2, 1876, p. 50) some of the curious nodules of a brownish-black colour which were dredged up from the bed of the Pacific during the voyage of the *Challenger*, and which have been described by Sir Wyville Thomson as "nearly pure peroxide of manganese." On analysis they have been found to consist of:—

Water, lost in vacuo	24.55
Water, given off at temperatures over 100°	10.00
Manganese dioxide	30.22
Ferric oxide	20.02
Alumina	3.30
Silicic acid	10.37
Chlorine	0.71
Traces of alkaline metals, &c.	0.83
	100.00

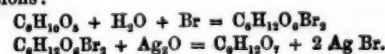
While, as the author admits, it would be rash from the present data to assume that we have here a new mineral species, he has suggested the name *Pelagite* for the material, which corresponds very closely, in point of composition, with the formula:—



He alludes to the statement having been widely circulated, in home and foreign scientific journals, that these nodules consist of peroxide of manganese; and points out that it now requires correction.

*Alcoholic Fermentation of Fruits, Flowers and Leaves.*—De Luca has studied the changes which the various parts of certain plants undergo when preserved, for more or less time, excluded from air in an atmosphere of carbonic acid or hydrogen, or in *vacuo*, or in a limited volume of air. In each case the several parts of the plant underwent fermentation without the introduction of a ferment, and carbonic acid, nitrogen, and occasionally hydrogen, were evolved, and alcohol and acetic acid were formed. In closed vessels the change is less perfect. In atmospheres of carbonic acid and hydrogen the decomposition of the whole of the sugar and starch may take place, and considerable quantities of alcohol and acetic acid may be produced. The evolution of hydrogen is probably due to the decomposition of mannite; at least, the fact has been established that fruits, flowers and leaves containing mannite evolve hydrogen as well as the two other gases (*Compt. Rend.*, lxxxiii., 512).

*Glycogen.*—The products resulting from the oxidation of this substance have been studied by H. H. Chittenden (*Ann. der Chemie*, clxxxii., 206). The supply of material, obtained from the muscular tissue of *Pecten irradians*, was dissolved in water and treated, first with a large excess of bromine, and then with silver oxide; after the removal of the silver bromide and what remained of that metal by means of sulphuretted hydrogen, a strongly acid solution was obtained. The acid, which the author proposes to name glycogenic acid, was obtained in a pure state, and the characters of a number of its salts were studied. It appears to have been formed by the following reactions:



On comparing the properties of this acid with those of glyconic acid and dextronic acid, the author finds that it does not differ more from them than they do from each other, or from the products obtained by Habermann by the oxidation of starch and paramylone.

**Nitroglycerin.**—Some of the physical characteristics of this body have recently been examined by C. Beckerhinn (*Sitzber. Ak. Wiss. Wien*, lxxiii., 235). He has determined the heat of fusion of the frozen body, and finds it to be 33.54 units of heat. The density of liquid nitroglycerin is 1.599; that of the solid 1.735. He refers to the opinion generally held that the compound when frozen explodes more readily than when it is in the liquid state. Experience does not support this view, and it must be evident on theoretical grounds that it is highly improbable since a considerable amount of heat must be consumed in causing a change in the state of aggregation before any explosion can ensue. To decide the question the author constructed an apparatus for the explosion, by percussion by the fall of a weight, of nitroglycerin, both solid and liquid, and he has found that while the liquid detonated when the weight fell from a height of 0.78 metre, solid nitroglycerin did not explode till the weight fell through a distance of 2.13 metres.

**The Use of the Sulphates of the Alkaline Earths for Adulteration.**—The current number of the *Boston Journal of Chemistry* quotes the following paragraph from the *London Chemist and Druggist*:—"A talented American has discovered nearly 25 per cent. of Epsom salts in a cask of oxalic acid, and some people are delighted with the information because they think they will now be less likely to be poisoned when the druggist's boy gives them oxalic acid for Epsom salts in the usual course. One of the (American) journals says 'this is certainly something new in the adulteration line.' Dear, innocent America! Why we played that little game here even before they thought of wooden nutmegs over there." So much for sulphate of magnesia. Some years since, before the Adulteration Act came into operation in England, the *Lancet*, the *Chemical News* and other serials opened our eyes to the marvellous composition of articles of food and drink. When describing the nature of some of the materials which make up the condiments in everyday use we were edified to learn that a sample of mustard, purchased in London, contained so much plaster of Paris that when mixed with water it "set" hard in the pot. But the art of adulteration, like all things else, progresses with the age; it now appears that sulphate of lime has for some reason been replaced by sulphate of baryta, and "barytes" is in demand for the synthesis of mustard. This may appear alarming, but, perhaps, we ought to congratulate ourselves that a substance has at last been chosen which either the human stomach or the artificial organ exhibited at the Loan Collection at South Kensington (and described so graphically in the *Times* of the 28th ult.) is powerless to deal with.

**Vienna Bread.**—Prof. Horsford, of Cambridge, Mass., has recently published (Washington: Government Printing Office) an elaborate report on the methods employed in the manufacture of bread in Vienna, as illustrated at the Austrian Exhibition of 1873. He describes the characteristics of the grain, the art of milling, the making of yeast-bread, and the processes in use in the Vienna bakeries. Some of the woodcuts which illustrate his memoir, such as those representing sections of miller's bran (page 49), and others of barley, oats, rye and Indian corn (page 70), have evidently been executed with exceptional care. The unusual excellence of the Vienna bread, arising for the most part from the marked superiority of the Hungarian wheat and flour, is considered to be due, not so much to the constant care of the farmer in changing the varieties

grown when the slightest deterioration of the quality of the product is detected, as to the dryness and clearness of the atmosphere of the district where the wheat is grown, at the time when the contents of the berry are in the condition technically known as "milk." So dry is the air in the Hungarian lowlands that there is no dew during the summer night; soon after sunrise the temperature rises to 74°–77° F., and in the course of the day attains to 95°–100° F., remaining at that temperature till nearly sunset. The driest months are July and August, the Hungarian summer being uniformly very dry. For testing the qualities of the flour, the author states that the whole of the nitrogenous substances can be separated from the starch by treatment with dilute acetic acid, and their amount estimated, after the settling out of the starch, by determining the specific gravity of the solution; this appears, however, to be a facile but insufficiently accurate means of arriving at the result aimed at. In speaking of the press-yeast employed in the manufacture of the "Kaiser-Semmel," he quotes the following interesting statistics, which give some idea of the development of this branch of industry during the last thirty years. One firm alone (Mauntner und Sohn, of St. Mark's) sold in

1846	72,400	Zollver. lbs.
1852	380,600	"
1862	1,144,500	"
1872	3,170,000	"

The problem why bread becomes stale was attacked many years ago by Bousingault, who found that it did not necessarily lose weight by the evaporation of water, but he could arrive at no satisfactory explanation for the change. The author believes that the gluten of the crumb-walls of stale bread, which are stiff and brittle, is dehydrated by the heat in freshening (re-baking), and the water of hydration driven out softens the glucoid, horny starch which coats and penetrates the gluten. Thus softened, the crumb is more palatable, because it is in a condition to be dissolved by the saliva, and tasted. On cooling, the water is withdrawn from the starch, which is thereby rendered stiff, and restored to the gluten, and the bread becomes stale. The author is of opinion that by adopting the methods which he describes in his Report bread of as good quality as that baked in Vienna may be produced in America.

THE veteran Prof. Wöhler, of Göttingen, has been nominated President of the German Chemical Society in Berlin, and Prof. Kekulé, of Bonn, Vice-President, for the coming year.

THE new scientific journal, intitled *Beiblätter zu den Annalen der Physik und Chemie*, to be edited by Prof. Poggendorff, and to appear in conjunction with the *Annalen*, will be issued at the commencement of the new year.

It has been decided that an Association of Professional Chemists shall be instituted in London, and a provisional committee has been appointed.

GEOLOGISTS will hear with equal surprise and regret of the death of Mr. David Forbes, F.R.S., who had for many years been one of the Honorary Secretaries of the Geological Society. The deceased was brother to the late Prof. Edward Forbes, and like him exhibited at an early age great taste and talent for scientific pursuits, especially in the direction of geology and chemistry. Mr. David Forbes had great experience in the practical application of geology to mining, and had travelled professionally through the principal mining districts of the world. During his residence in South America he suffered from fever, which never completely left him, but returned at regular intervals. Two or three years ago he was stricken by a sunstroke while travelling in Spain, and his health was much shattered by the attack. The death of his wife also helped to impair his strength, but his friends were nevertheless unpre-

pared for his decease. This occurred at his residence in York Place, Portman Square, on Tuesday last. Mr. Forbes was a keen geologist, a good practical miner, a neat chemical manipulator, and an accomplished linguist. His death threw great gloom over the meeting of the Geological Society on Wednesday evening, and drew forth expressions of deep regret from Mr. Duncan, as President.

## MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.—(Wednesday, Nov. 22.)

SIR PATRICK COLQUHOUN in the Chair. Mr. W. de Gray Birch, honorary librarian, read a paper on two Anglo-Saxon MSS. in the British Museum, numbered as Cotton, Titus D. xxvi. and xxvii. In the course of his account, Mr. Birch traced these two interesting relics of ancient literature to the authorship of Ælfwine, Abbot of Newminster, Winchester, in the early years of the eleventh century, and illustrated the various astronomical, ecclesiastical, and literary contents of the volumes, their art, and history, with a variety of extracts and notes from other manuscripts of corresponding antiquity and nature.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.—(Monday, November 27.)

SIR RUTHERFORD ALCOCK, President, in the Chair. Some papers on African exploration were read. The first paper, "Observations on the Nile between Duffli and Magungo," was by Colonel Gordon. About twenty miles south of Duffli the river begins to widen out, the current becomes less rapid, and from that point to Magungo the river is nothing more than a portion of Lake Albert, filled with islands of papyrus, the banks being difficult of approach. The country is more populous than any portion of Africa seen by Colonel Gordon. Colonel Gordon had not seen the north-west branch of the Nile spoken of by Signor Gessi, but had no doubt of its existence. He corroborated the accuracy of Baker's map, and remarked, with regard to the mouth of the Victoria Nile, that it was difficult to say where it ended and where the lake began. The second paper was on "The Victoria Nile between Magungo and Foweira." From Magungo to the Murchison Falls, the river is navigable, but from that point to the Kamma Rapids, nine miles from Foweira, the river abounds with strong rapids. Between the latter place and the Murchison Falls, a distance of from ten to fifteen miles, the river has a fall of 700 feet. The solitude of the surrounding country is described as excessive. Another paper furnished a summary of the geographical and scientific results attained by the Khedive's Government during the three years 1874–6, while another, by the Rev. E. J. Davis, gave particulars respecting Colonel Gordon's proceedings in the Lake Regions. The concluding paper was an account of the circumnavigation of Lake Albert by Signor R. Gessi, at whose disposal two iron boats had been placed. From Duffli to the lake it was 164 miles, and throughout the whole distance the river is navigable, deep, and broad. At about 100 miles from Duffli a large branch diverges to the N.N.W. in the direction of the Makraka and the Niam Niams. The country proved to be rich, the products of the soil consisting of millet, the wheat of the country, sesame, honey, tobacco, bananas, beans, &c. Cattle are abundant, and comfort and plenty appear to reign among the people. In giving a description of his cruise, Sig. Gessi states that he found the lake to be 140 miles long by 60 wide, and that he ascertained from native information that no river flows in at its southern end.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—(Tuesday, November 28.)

COLONEL A. LANE FOX, F.R.S., President, in the Chair. An Indian hammock from the city of Mexico, weapons from Perak and British Guiana, and a Bosjeman's skull were exhibited. The President, by permission of Messrs. Bollin and Feuardent, exhibited some terra-cotta figures from Tanagra in Boeotia, and read some notes thereon. Papers on the "Laplenders," by A. V. Humboldt v. Horek, and on the "Tribes of British Guiana," by the Rev. W. Harper, were also read.

## SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—(Thursday, November 30.)

FREDERIC (OUVRY, Esq., President, in the Chair. J. Fowler, Esq., F.S.A., read a paper on the decay of glass, illustrated by numerous specimens of various periods. Glass may be roughly divided into three periods—Ancient, Mediaeval, and Modern—differing from each other in the materials and method of manufacture. The line of demarcation is not solely a chronological one, as both ancient Arabian lamps and old Venetian glass belong, as far as manufacture is concerned, to the modern type. Ancient glass may be subdivided into two classes: Prehistoric, Egyptian, Phœnician, &c.—and Roman and Greek. Of these the first class is similar to Gothic or Mediaeval glass, and like it, is subject to granular decay. The latter resembles modern glass, and is subject to filmy decay, which produces the iridescent colours seen on specimens which have been long buried. In the manufacture of mediaeval glass, the materials used were impure, and the temperature not high enough, so that the melted mass never became sufficiently fluid to be homogeneous, or of even thickness, when cool. It is from these causes that the secondary and tertiary hues and diversities of colour in old windows arise. Mr. Fowler described the chemical actions of water and air in disintegrating glass, and spoke of the danger of any cleaning process as applied to windows earlier than the sixteenth century, and of the injurious effects of the present method of lighting churches by gas.

## PHYSICAL SOCIETY.—(Saturday, December 2.)

PROF. G. C. FOSTER, President, in the Chair. M. Janssen made a brief communication, in French, with reference to a method which he has proposed to the Académie des Sciences for ascertaining whether planets really exist between Mercury and the Sun. After mentioning the importance of photography from an astronomical point of view, he explained his reasons for hoping that a series of solar photographs, taken regularly at intervals of about two hours at a number of places on the earth's surface, would enable us to determine this question. As it is necessary that such observations be made at several places and in several countries, M. Janssen hopes that other countries besides France will ere long arrange to have such a series of observations taken, and he considers that in a few years the circumsolar regions would thus be explored with a certainty which could not possibly be attained by any other method. He exhibited some of the original photographs taken in Japan of the Transit of Venus, and explained the advantage of placing a grating in the focus of the camera in order to eliminate distortion.—Mr. Crookes showed the spectrum of a small specimen of chloride of gallium which he had received from its discoverer, M. le Coque de Boisbaudran. The discovery of this metal is of peculiar interest, as M. Mendelief had previously, from theoretical considerations, asserted it to exist, and had also correctly given some of its chemical and physical properties. The most prominent line in the spectrum was a bright line in the blue, somewhat more refrangible than that of indium.—Mr. Lodge briefly described a model which he has designed to illustrate flow of electricity, &c., and he showed how similar considerations can be applied in the case of thermo-electric currents. The model, in its simplest form, consists of an endless cord passing over four pulleys, and on one side of the square thus formed it passes through a series of buttons held in their positions by rigid rods or elastic strings according as they represent layers of a conducting or a non-conducting substance. When considered in connexion with thermo-electricity, the buttons are assumed to oscillate on the cord, and if they move in one direction with greater velocity than in the other, the cord will tend to move in the former direction. Now, at a junction of copper and iron an unsymmetrical oscillation of the molecules must ensue, and the cord, or electric current, will advance when two junctions are at different temperatures. Mr. Lodge showed experimentally that for a given difference of temperature the maximum thermo-electric current is obtained when one of the junctions is at 280° Cent., and beyond this point the amount of deflection decreases. This fact led Sir W. Thomson to discover the convection of heat by electricity: that is, if we have a circuit composed of copper and iron, and one of the junctions be at the above temperature, the current, in passing from hot to cold in the iron, or from cold to hot in the copper, absorbs heat. This fact was experimentally illustrated by Mr. Lodge.

## LONDON INSTITUTION.—(Monday, December 4.)

PROF. HUXLEY delivered a lecture upon "Some Recent Additions to our Knowledge of the Pedigree of the Horse." He began by pointing out some of the principal differentiations in the horse's skeleton, especially the total absence of the first and fifth digits, the reduction of the second and fourth to mere "splint-bones" without phalanges, the fusion of the ulna with the radius, and the rudimentary state of the fibula. It had often been objected to the theory of evolution that palaeontology afforded no direct evidence of the passage from one distinct form to another, but seven years ago Prof. Huxley had shown that there was such evidence, although imperfect, in the case of the evolution of the horse. Thus in the Upper Miocene we find *Hipparion*, in which the second and fourth toes had complete phalanges, but were too small to be of use, and resembled the "dew-claws" of a dog, while in the Lower Miocene and Upper Eocene *Anchitherium* had these toes functionally developed. Since that time an immense amount of new evidence has been obtained from an unexpected source—the so-called "Bad Lands" of America, lying between the Mississippi and the Rocky Mountains. This district had formed in Eocene times a great inland basin in which fine mud had been deposited containing a vast amount of organic remains. These have been investigated amid great dangers and hardships, principally by Prof. Marsh, of Yale College, and have completed and extended our knowledge of the equine pedigree. Thus in the Lower Eocene we find *Orohippus*, a small animal with four functional digits in its fore-foot; then *Meshippus*, in which three toes only were complete, the fourth being rudimentary; *Miohippus* (nearly allied to *Anchitherium*), in which the fourth toe totally disappeared; *Protohippus*, with the outermost of its three digits much reduced in size; *Pliohippus*, which had no phalanges in the secondary digits of the fore-foot; and lastly, *Equus*, as we now know it. Similar modifications were traced in the conditions of the leg-bones and the structure of the teeth. The history of the horse is thus shown to be strictly in accordance with the theory of evolution, and no other reasonable hypothesis will account for the facts. And if it is true of the horse it must be true of other animals, for it is absurd to suppose that different organisms have been built up upon different fundamental plans.

## FINE ART.

*Discoveries at Ephesus.* By J. T. Wood, F.S.A. (London: Longmans & Co., 1877.)

THE discovery of ancient treasures, which was once considered above all things a matter of chance or fate, is fast passing under the dominion of science. Year by year discoveries thicken, discoveries expected on reasonable grounds, and worked for by steady method. The harvest of antiquities rewards the digger on the site of ancient cities almost as surely as the harvest of corn the sower of seed. For eleven years—from 1863 to 1874—Mr. Wood sank pits and dug trenches on the site of Ephesus, and his results have been, if not splendid, at least solid, and of imperishable value.

From the first, Mr. Wood adopted the opinion that, if he could find the Magnesian Gate of Ephesus, and thence trace the portico of Damianus, which is mentioned by Philostratus as leading from the city to the temple of Artemis, he must needs reach the latter, the great object of his search. But a notion, the truth of which is not necessarily implied in Philostratus' words, that this portico being but 600 ft. long, the temple must be at that distance from the city, for a while diverted his energy from the ultimately successful method. However, it is pleasanter to congratulate a discoverer on his final

success than to regret any delay in attaining it, and this delay was in the present instance of great advantage to others if not to Mr. Wood himself, for it enabled him to secure the valuable records hidden in the Odeum, the Great Theatre, and other buildings of ancient Ephesus. In 1867 he made up his mind as to the Magnesian Gate, after which his progress was steady, and, following the road which led from the gate with the utmost perseverance for a distance which greatly surpassed his expectations, he finally lighted on a corner of the Peribolus Wall which enclosed the domains of the Artemisium. Apparently bisecting the angle formed by this wall, though he does not expressly say so, Mr. Wood advanced inwards for another half-mile, where, at a depth of about 20 ft. below the soil, he found the pavement of the Great Temple.

After this his task was simple but not easy, for in addition to the usual enemies of explorers, fever and brigands, Mr. Wood's works were constantly under water in the rains, and some of his sculpture damaged by the hammers of the numerous excursion-parties, who came by train from Smyrna, and loved to carry back with them as a trophy a finger or a toe of a statue, or a fine piece of moulding. This custom cannot be too strongly reprobated, as it might in some cases destroy all the delicate fineness of sculptures and leave a mere shapeless *caput mortuum* for national museums. Patience, enthusiasm, and physical courage are necessary to the excavator, and in none of the three was Mr. Wood wanting. To have dug the Artemisium out of a plain presenting no irregularities and bearing a uniform crop of barley would bring honour to any man, and may preserve Mr. Wood's name in the mouths of the learned for a long time; nor must it be forgotten that he could never have succeeded but for the liberal grant of funds by Mr. Lowe, and the sympathetic activity of Mr. Newton in London.

One of the most interesting things about a discovery of this kind is the fresh light it throws on ancient authors and their mode of thinking and writing. Take Pliny, for example, and compare his statement with the measurements of Mr. Wood. Pliny says that the columns of the Artemisium were 60 Roman, or 58½ English ft. in height. Mr. Wood shows that their height was about 55 ft. 9 in. Pliny gives the dimensions of the whole temple as 413 ft. 2 in. by 218 ft. 9 in. Mr. Wood found them to be 418 ft. 1 in. by 239 ft. 4½ in., the measurement of the platform on which the temple stood being taken at the lowest step, not that of the building itself. Mr. Wood proves satisfactorily that the temple had a hundred columns in the peristyle; Pliny talks of "columnae centum viginti septem a singulis regibus factae." Here Mr. Wood maintains that Pliny does not contradict him, but speaks of a hundred columns of which twenty-seven were the gifts of kings. But this construction would never occur to an unprejudiced mind, and before it was accepted, some such word as *quarum* would seem to be necessary between *centum* and *viginti*. Why should not Pliny be inaccurate here as elsewhere? Besides, in the time of Alexander the Great, when the temple of

Pliny was building, it would have been very hard to find twenty-seven kings at all, and the only column which bears a legible dedicatory inscription is given by a Sardian woman (*Σαρδηνή*).

Mr. Wood found, one beneath the other, three separate floors which must have belonged to three separate temples built one over the other on the same spot at successive periods. Of these the lowest floor consisted of a layer of charcoal between two of putty, and it seems most probable that this was the floor which tradition relates that Chersiphron laid with charcoal and fleeces. The two upper floors were of marble, and belonged to the temple burnt by Herostratus, and that built on its ruins shortly afterwards. A fragment of a lion's head, and a few other fragments, which must have belonged to the earlier temples, were found in the ruins. The sculptured columns, capitals, lion's head, and other objects which pertained to the later temple have already become known everywhere, and may be seen any day at the British Museum. It is strange that Mr. Wood found no statue of that Asiatic goddess of the Kybele class whom the Greek colonists, finding her in possession when they landed, named Artemis, from her close connexion with woods and wild beasts. He engraves, indeed, at page 270, a polymastic female form, from a stone found in Caria; but this figure holds bipennis and sceptre, and would seem to be rather a female form of Zeus Labrandeus, the national deity of the Carians.

Among the inscriptions found I would mention as among the more interesting No. 2 from the Odeum, which seems to embody an Imperial rescript as to the use of certain titles by the City of Ephesus. Smyrna, Pergamus, and Ephesus were constantly occupied, in Roman times, in quarrelling about precedence; and in this rescript Antoninus Pius advises the people of Ephesus to address those of Smyrna by their full titles, and to expect a like return. It has a decided tinge of the Roman contempt for "words and names and your law."

Mr. Wood's illustrations are numerous and striking; but it is almost a pity that there is not a plan of the temple on a somewhat larger scale; this would have been a boon for architects, if not for the public. His style has a simplicity and directness which are not displeasing; but his narrative has one curious fault, that he constantly, without a word of introduction, brings in a new feature, and expects people to know all about it. On page 158 is a curious instance of this trick; but I have not space to quote it.

An appendix at the end of the book contains a transcription in cursive characters of the more important of the inscriptions found by Mr. Wood, with a translation of them into English. This task has been accomplished by a number of Cambridge and Oxford tutors and professors, who seem to have worked piecemeal, and without any adequate supervision, or any concert among themselves. As might be expected, the quality of the work is very unequal. As uncials are given in but very few cases, a great responsibility rested on the editors. The student was at their mercy, and might

fairly claim from them the most minute fidelity, at all events in the transcription. Inaccuracy in his authorities causes the archaeologist infinite loss of time and annoyance. This fact does not seem to have been realised by some of the editors. It is necessary that in this matter the truth should be told. There are some among these scholars who are incapable of doing any but conscientious and scholarly work, and no doubt they executed their share of the work as well as the circumstances permitted; but, on the other hand, the most cursory glance through the pages of the appendix reveals errors such as a schoolboy might be ashamed of. I hasten to give instances. The eleventh inscription from the Augusteum is thus given letter for letter:—*Νικον Ἰούλιον Τιβερίου, Δρουσον Ἰούλιον Τιβερίου υἱὸν Καίσαρα, Τιβέριον Ἰούλιον Σεβαστῶν υἱὸν Καίσαρα, . . . . . οἱ νεοποιήσαντες . . . . . Ἰούλιον Καίσαρα, &c., &c.* (Here the letters not to be seen on the stone are, according to the very unpleasant practice of the book, underlined.)

The English rendering runs thus:—"The victorious Julius, son of Tiberius Drusus Julius Caesar, son of Tiberius Julius Augustus Caesar, son of Tiberius Julius Caesar the temple-builders [or curators, congratulate]," &c. It is a pity that syntax should be so violated for so small a gain in sense. Evidently *Νικον* is the end of the name *Γερμανικόν*, and *Σεβαστῶν* should be read instead of *Σεβαστῶν*, when it will at once appear that the inscription is set up in honour of Germanicus, adoptive son of Tiberius, the younger Drusus, his own son, and Tiberius himself.

Again, it is well-known that in inscriptions *Εὐριπίδης Β τοῦ Πλάτωνος* or *δὲ τοῦ Πλάτωνος* means that Euripides' father and grandfather were both named Plato. Ignorance on this point has produced several mistranslations in the present inscriptions. Thus, in No. 2, from the Augusteum, the phrase *σπονδοποιούντος Θεοπόμπου Γ. τοῦ Μενεκράτους* is rendered "Theopompus making the drink-offering, Caius, the son of Menecrates, being . . . of the temple." The meaning of the Γ is that Theopompus' three immediate ancestors were named Menecrates. A similar error occurs in No. 19, from the Great Theatre, where *Αὐρ. Διονυσίου Δίστου (δὲ τοῦ) Θέωνος* is translated "Aurelius Dionysius Distus, son of Theo." In this last inscription, again, we find the wonderful Latin name Astatius, which is an obviously false reading of A. Statius, or rather L. Statius, the letter on the stone being really Λ. The mistakes last pointed out are the more inexcusable in that the whole of this inscription was published by C. Curtius, of course with accuracy, in the fourth volume of the *Hermes*. In another place ("Great Theatre," p. 3) *ὁ νεωκόρος δημός* is rendered "the public assembly of the Neocori," a phrase explained in a footnote by "perhaps, Meeting of the Temple-keepers." After blunders like these, which are but specimens of a numerous class, we may pass lightly over such infelicitous phrases as "the youth of the Ephesian citizens, which shall at any time succeed" ("Great Theatre," p. 39, for *τοῖς*

*αἰεὶ ἐσόμενοι* 'Εφεσίων παῖσι) or such inconsistencies as appear in the rendering of the same word in various places—the term *νεοποιός*, for instance, being variously thus translated:—"custodian of the temple," "temple warden," "temple builder," "temple builder or curator," "curator," "temple builder (curator, shrine-maker?)." This set of various readings is capped by Mr. Wood himself (p. 154), "I suppose that the word *νεοποιός* here means a person who decorates the temple with a votive offering in gold or silver."

But all is not yet told. It seemed necessary to compare, in two or three instances taken at random, the cursive text of the inscriptions as given by the editors with the stones themselves. I began with No. 12 (page 22) from the Temple of Diana. Here I found that many letters not underlined were not on the stone. In line 10 this negligence in indicating what is conjectural has a serious effect, the *καὶ ὁ* of the cursive not appearing on the stone, but instead of it a long space which must have been filled with a phrase to quite another effect, *ὅπως ἂν εἰδῶσι πάντες ὅτι ἐπίσταται ὁ*, or something of that kind. In line 4 the editor reads *καὶ ἀναλίσκομένων σωμάτων*, and translates "now lives being sacrificed." The reading of the stone is *καὶ ἀλίσκομένων σωμάτων*, "persons being captured." Nearly the whole of line 15 is conjectural, though not underlined, and throughout the inscription the words supplied do not correspond with the vacant space they should fill.

Of the other inscriptions compared with the stones, none gave quite so bad a result as this, but not in a single instance was the all-important underlining done with accuracy. These details I was obliged to bring forward in order that foreign scholars, who have no opportunity of seeing the stones themselves, may be warned not to rely indiscriminately on the readings here given. But it should be understood that no doubt much—perhaps most—of the transcription is done in scholarly fashion, except for the unfortunate underlining. It is much to be regretted that the bad work must take away to some extent the character of the good. On the whole, it is to be feared that the work will not add to the Continental reputation of English scholars. Perhaps, if it was necessary that hasty transcripts should be made in a few months, from inaccurate copies, and without collation of the originals, a better result could not be expected. But I fail to see why these conditions were necessary parts of the problem.

PERCY GARDNER.

#### A LETTER OF VAN DYCK.

IN the famous collection of autographs belonging to M. Benjamin Fillon, which is shortly to be sold by the well-known expert, M. Chararay, there is preserved an interesting letter from Van Dyck, written by the great portraitist during a hurried visit to Paris in November, 1641; that is, about a month before his death, which occurred on December 9, 1641. It will be seen by this letter, which a French correspondent, M. Ephrussi, has kindly copied for us, that Van Dyck must have held some relations with Cardinal Richelieu, for he uses the occasion of asking for a passport, to express his gratitude for the esteem and honour

that the Cardinal has shown him, adding that if he can only regain his health he will make a journey expressly to Paris in order to receive the Cardinal's commands (possibly for the execution of a portrait of himself). But meanwhile his only desire seems to be to get back to his house in England as quickly as possible—or, as he puts it, *con toute diligence*, which reminds us of the little phrases in bad Italian which Dürer also liked to intersperse in his letters. His request for a passport for himself, five servitors and four servants, and *ma carrosse*, shows the state in which the magnificent artist used to travel. The letter, which we give in the original French, only altering the orthography slightly in order to make it more easily understandable, runs as follows. It is not known to whom it was written.

"Monsieur,

"Je vois par votre très-agréable, comme aussi j'entend par bouche du Monsieur Montagu, l'estime et l'honneur que me fait Monseigneur le Cardinal. Je plains infiniment le malheur de mon indisposition, qui me rend incapable et indigne de tant de faveurs. Je n'aurai jamais honte plus désirée que de servir sa Emi<sup>e</sup> et si je puis recouvrer mon salut, comme j'espère, je ferai un voyage tout exprès pour recevoir ses commandements. Cependant je m'estime extrêmement redevable et obligé et comme je me trouve de jour en jour pire je désire *con toute diligence* de m'avancer envers ma maison en Angleterre pour laquelle je vous supplie de me faire tenir un passeport pour moi et cinq serviteurs, ma carrosse et quatre servants et m'obligerez infiniment d'être votre à jamais comme je suis, Monsieur.

"Votre très-humble et très-obligé serviteur.

"ANT. VAN DYCK.

"Il 16 Novembris 1641."

#### ART SALE.

On the 1st inst. Messrs. Christie, Manson and Woods sold a collection of porcelain, enamels, and other curiosities from China and Japan. An incense-burner of ancient Chinese enamel, surmounted by a kylin, sold for 12*l.* 10*s.*; another, tripod form, with ornaments in colours, on light-blue ground, 11*l.*; a group of two warriors, 18*l.*; a blue and white 24 in. cistern, 16*l.*; another, with horses and waves of the sea, 16*l.* 10*s.*; a turquoise shell, 5*l.* 10*s.*; a turquoise bottle, 12 in., 12*l.* 15*s.*; another, 8*l.* 15*s.*; a turquoise vase, with flowers in slight relief, 9½ in., 18*l.*; two turquoise bottles, 8*l.* each. Of the Chinese enamels, a hexagonal basket of pierced metal gilt, 8*l.*; a dish, with foliage in colours on turquoise and white ground, 7*l.*; a pair of small two-handled vases, 11*l.*; a pair of white birds, with coloured wings, 12*l.*; a pair of birds on perches, 9*l.* 15*s.*; a pair of bottles, with fish, 7*l.* 15*s.*; a pair of two-handled vases, with lotus plants on crimson ground, 15½ *g.*; a pair of long-necked bottles, with birds and flowers, 12*l.*; another pair, with vases of flowers, 10*l.* 15*s.*; a pair of tall jars, with dragons and ornaments, 16*l.*; another with bats and fruits in colours, 12*l.*; a pair of incense-burners, formed as monsters, 60*l.*; a square beaker, with ribs in relief, 15*l.* 10*s.*; a long-necked bottle, with arabesques on crimson ground, 16*l.* 10*s.*; an incense-burner and cover, the handles and feet formed of elephants, and cover surmounted by an elephant, 75*l.*; a pair of ivory matchpots inlaid with birds and flowers in mother-of-pearl, 22*l.*; a large matchpot of wood, ivory, and lacquer, carved with two figures in high relief, 40*l.*; a black and gold lacquer cabinet, with panels of lacquered ivory, 18*l.*; a cistern, with kylins on blue and white, 20*l.*; a six-leaved screen with silk panels, painted with birds and flowers, 29*l.*; another, with vases of flowers, 27*l.*; other six-leaved screens, with silk panels, embroidered with birds and flowers, ranged from 10*l.* to 17*l.*

Two magnificent Sèvres vases have been presented to the town of Philadelphia by the French Government in remembrance of the Exhibition held there this year.

#### NOTES AND NEWS.

MR. GEORGE BARNARD has lately completed an important and interesting series of drawings of Alpine scenery, which will shortly be exhibited in the rooms of the Alpine Club. One of the principal subjects is a view of the great Aletsch glacier from the Belalp, taken under the influence of morning light, when the vast surface of the ice field is chequered by the shadows of the surrounding peaks, that stand out with a fine distinctness in the clear sunlit air. A second drawing presents a view of the smooth waters of the Oeschinen See, a little lake in the valley of that name near Kandersteg. Here again the effect is of early morning, with the snowy summits of the Blumli Alp, Weisse Frau and Doldenhorn mirrored in the deep tones of the water. In the foreground are the ruined fragments of great larch-trees hurled down from the mountain side by an avalanche. Mr. Barnard does not attempt, like M. Loppé, whose Alpine pictures were lately exhibited in London, to realise in detail the forms and colours of Alpine scenery, with the sudden and startling contrasts of rich verdure and dazzling snow. The scheme of his art is rather to reconcile these opposite elements by sacrificing something of the distinctive force of each, and combining them in a single view. This feat is successfully accomplished in a large drawing of the Eiger Glacier, and in another, of the Gabel Horn from the Findelen Thal. The series includes, besides the works already mentioned, views of the Roth Horn from below the Riffl, the Weiss Horn from above the Riffl, the Matterhorn with the village of Zermatt, the Jungfrau from near Murren, and the Breithorn from the valley of Lauterbrunnen. Such a pleasant illustration of districts dear to mountaineers will find an appropriate place of exhibition in the rooms of the Alpine Club, of which Mr. Barnard is himself a member.

THE profession by the same individual of two distinct branches of art was more common formerly than now, and is now more common in France than in England. The current number of *L'Art* affords an excellent example of the success possible to an artist who does not limit himself to a single study, in the shape of a line-engraving by M. Gaillard of his own picture of *St. Sebastian*. M. Gaillard has long been known as an accomplished master of the burin, and the picture now so finely reproduced served also to prove his command of the painter's resources. It was one of the principal features of the last exhibition of the Salon.

REFERRING to a scheme that was lately announced in these columns to establish in London a school of sculpture under the direction of M. Dalou, we understand that one or two gentlemen interested in art have offered to provide a guarantee fund to cover the first year's expenses of the atelier. With this security there should be little difficulty in carrying the scheme into effect.

MR. HOLMES has lately secured several interesting drawings by masters of the German school to enrich the royal collection of drawings at Windsor. We may mention as one of the most interesting and less familiar features of that collection a series of very admirable pen-and-ink drawings by Canaletto of a surprising freedom and force of manner. The freshness of these sketches gives an impression of the artist's delight in nature that is scarcely supplied by his finished pictures.

WE understand that M. Tissot intends shortly to publish a series of his etchings.

MR. L. ALMA TADEMA has recently finished two important pictures which are not designed for exhibition. One of these is a high narrow canvas, representing the interior of a Roman bath for women. A colossal copper sphinx in the centre, turned richly green with the moisture of the air, spouts a current of water into the pool, where several women are sporting half-immersed. Down the marble steps at the side of the Sphinx a

comely *balneatrix* walks laden with towels. In the background a circle of friends, lightly clad, huddle together in the chillier air, and gossip. A magnificent column of red porphyry suggests the nature and splendour of the supports of the roof out of sight. The accessories of this interesting work are carried out with the painter's customary care and learned labour; the colour is pearly and luminous in a high degree. It is a little poem in the manner of Martial, and at least as antique. No less accomplished, and distinctly more lyrical, is the other work we have referred to. On a marble bench, under a cloudless morning sky of Capua or Naples, a girl sits shyly listening to the ardent eloquence of a stout youth that lies at right angles to her, stretched along the bench. Her flushed face and downcast eyes betray the inward struggle; but he is plainly a lad not accustomed to denial. His robes are white and blue, hers only white; the marble is of a still more translucent white, and the sky is soft blue above. Beyond their heads lies a glistening streak of sea. The only variations in this tender harmony of white and blue are a bush of tamarisk, covered with pale-pink blossom, and the red-gold colour of the girl's shining hair. The artist has never in technical perfection surpassed this exquisite work. Mr. Alma Tadema is also completing four large works representing the Seasons: Spring, with two girls, burdened with anemones, wandering through a Tuscan field; Summer, with the same maidens lounging in a marble bath; Autumn, a Maenad clad in russet robes, whirling her thyrsus woven with ivy-buds; Winter, a group of women in the portico of a palace, warming their hands over a pan of charcoal, a snowy landscape in the background. This fine series of semi-allegorical personifications will probably be seen next year at the Royal Academy.

THE Widow Cadart, who succeeds to the business of her late husband as a publisher of etchings, announces the usual *Album* of the house for 1877. There will be thirty etchings, hitherto unpublished, by thirty artists, some of whom are distinguished etchers. The *Album Cadart* has always been notable for the care bestowed on the material of its production—paper, type, &c.—and the Widow Cadart announces that she has this year "redoublé de soins dans l'exécution matérielle et artistique de l'œuvre: papier, tirage, etc."—an effort now, indeed, more than ever desirable and necessary, seeing the immense advance in these things which on all sides has characterised French printing during the last two or three years, so that the editions of works printed by Claye, and Jonaust, and Alcan Lévy, are nearly always little works of art, which when they shall have become rare (and some of them are rare already) will be sought for eagerly by amateurs as marvels of the art of typography in our day. Mme. Veuve Cadart does wisely to look carefully to the material execution of her work.

No more original Christmas gift-book has appeared this season than Mr. Bentley's special edition of *The Witches' Frolic* and *The Bagman's Dog*, two of the most noteworthy of those "Ingoldsby Legends" which there is always a public to buy and read. It is a dainty public indeed that the eminent publisher has this year satisfied with the luxurious presentation of these "legends," printed at the Chiswick Press, and illustrated so remarkably. The illustrations claim to be done by "a new art;" but that is not really their greatest merit. The new art has some resemblance to the old-fashioned silhouette; but the old-fashioned silhouette gave us a black form detached on a background of white, and this gives us white on a background of black. Moreover, the surface of the white is itself drawn upon and thinly shaded: that is, you have more than the outlines—a more complete picture is presented, though without the usual gradations of *chiaroscuro*. The process, however, is not here the most interesting thing, but rather the artistic work itself, which is

full of spirit, and action, and the quaintest grace. Here are children whose gestures and whose draperies are delightful for simplicity and ease; girls who have more than a touch of Watteau's grace; young men active and muscular; old men as powerless and comical as any pantaloons in a pantomime. The "new art" itself may be of no great value, but the artist who has drawn these figures would appear to be a draughtswoman of genuine gifts.

WE hear that an effort is being made to obtain for the Winter Exhibition at Burlington House some of the fine works of Turner which, ever since they were painted, have remained in the possession of the Fawkes family at Farnley Hall, near Otley, Yorkshire.

WE understand that Mr. Arthur Lucas, the publisher, of Wigmore Street, has engaged the Chevalier J. Ballin, the eminent line-engraver, to produce an important-sized plate from Edwin Long's (A.R.A.) picture of *The Pool of Bethesda*, which was in the last Royal Academy Exhibition.

THE cartoons designed by M. Chenavard for the painting of the Panthéon are shortly to be exhibited in the Hôtel de Ville of Lyon. The municipal council of that city have just voted 1,500 fr. for the expenses of this exhibition.

THE new manufactory of Sèvres, which is re-closed during the present month for necessary works, will, it is announced, be definitively opened to the public in the first week of January. It will be opened free on Sundays and *fête* days, a privilege that has not hitherto been accorded; even the Museum having been up to the present time, contrary to the usual practice in France, always closed on Sundays. On week days visitors will only be admitted by tickets, as—the *ateliers* being open on those days, as well as the galleries and museum—some restriction is necessary in order to prevent interruption to the workmen.

UNDER the title of *Les Amateurs d'Autrefois*, M. Clément de Ris writes for the amateurs and collectors of the present day an account of the lives and labours of their distinguished predecessors. In a richly printed volume, illustrated with eight etchings, he relates the histories of those celebrated personages who are known by the names of Claude Lorraine, J. B. S. Ponce, Madame de Verrue, le Chevalier de la Roque, M. de Julienne, Randon de Boisssey, the Comte de Lassay, &c., and gives many entertaining details respecting them, as well as much instructive matter for modern collectors.

UNDER the Rospigliosi Palace, in what was one of the great halls of the Baths of Constantine, have lately been found portions of pavement, many fragments of coloured marble cornices, a statue of Mars almost entire, a head of Bacchus, a satyr, a head of Paris, and a coloured mosaic with budding foliage. Close to the same site an ancient building used as a fountain has been discovered. It is built in imitation of a water grotto, and consists of a wall with niches and pilasters, and decorated with stone slabs having representations of winged genii in chariots or riding marine monsters, surrounded by mosaics and shells on a foundation of pumice-stone. The water flows down four marble steps into a basin.

### THE STAGE.

MR. TOOLE has come back to London and to the Gaiety Theatre with a not very favourable specimen of the kind of drama to which he has accustomed us. The author of the new piece, *The Man in Possession*, is Mr. James Albery; but the delicate and well-applied art and the truth of observation which give charm to *Two Roses* are little to be perceived here. Nothing with smaller claim to be considered artistic has been contributed to our stage by a writer of confessed ability, who should aim higher. The piece is a farce in

three acts, *plus* a good many of the witty things which Mr. Albery knows how to say—things that may enliven a funny newspaper when it is flagging, but can hardly make a comedy. The piece is without any thread of genuine interest, without any skilful intrigue, without any vivid sketches of character, without any sequence or unity in such satire as it contains. Its witticisms are generally isolated things, rarely belonging to the individual who utters them. To this the one exception may be found in the utterances of the elderly hero, the broker's man, who is played by Mr. Toole. His convictions of the inevitable uselessness of "a lady"—a "real lady:" "she could never do anything useful"—are, it is true, appropriate to a character about whom all is Brummagem except his love for a girl. What the interest of the piece is supposed to be, it is for a long while difficult to determine, but by the time the curtain has fallen on the last act it has become pretty plain that opportunity has been sought for allowing Mr. Toole to be both funny and pathetic in the same drama. It has not been sought successfully. The talent of Mr. Toole may possibly be various, but it is not flexible; and such contrasts as he is able to present between humour and pathos are not really sharp and decided enough to be effective. He stumbles heavily, as it were, from the one into the other, and has none of the electrical quality which alone can give the vivid interest of truth itself to changes such as he attempts. Of course he is most at home where he may be unrestrainedly funny; and where that may be, he has many natural moments in which he pours, amusingly enough, certain phases of lower middle-class life. But his pathos seems to us far less successful, though the pathetic situation Mr. Albery has imagined is well conceived, and only wants, on the part both of author and actor, more careful and reasonable realisation. The theme of the almost paternal love of a common and rough old man for a girl who, by her true birth and by her nature, is worlds apart from him, is one which, though not indeed new, is still quite worthy to receive adequate treatment at the hands of author or actor endowed with the true gifts of pathos. In the new piece—which is aided a good deal by the naturalness of Mr. F. F. Young, the manliness of Mr. Edmund Leathes, and the unaffected grace of Miss Hollingshead—this theme is just suggested. But to say that it is treated with any pretension to competence would indeed be a mistake. The Gaiety public is, however, very glad to see Mr. Toole, and if it stays, as probably it does, to see the *Spelling Bee*, which follows *The Man in Possession*, it need not altogether regret its evening.

ON Wednesday, Mdme. Chaumont took her benefit, and appeared for the last time in London until June. At her benefit Mdme. Chaumont went through both of her pieces—*Madame attend Monsieur* and *Toto chez Tata*—and sang her songs. We have not spoken of her songs before, but they are worth speaking of, for they are little dramas in themselves. She has hardly any voice, yet the little thread of voice she has is a very pleasant one, and nothing was ever better used. She acts her songs, all of which are descriptive. She brings into them just that power of more than photographic accuracy in observation which gives the reality—though it does not give the beauty—to her *Toto chez Tata*. For instance, in *La Bonne Année*—the song that records the congratulations given in Paris on the "Jour de l'an"—she illustrates with amusing truth the little tyrannies of social habit and the insincerities it gives rise to—the knock at the door, the hour chosen hurriedly in the thought that the acquaintance will not be at home, the consequent hurrying on to some other visit more to be desired, then the surprise at the answer that the acquaintance is after all within; the rapidly assumed gladness; the heartiness, only half of which is make-believe; the New Year's wish, and the exit, when custom is complied with and the visitor free. All that is

indicated completely, with the fewest and most expressive touches. And towards the end of the song there is another "interior"—two old *bourgeois*, with voices thin with age, cheerful yet with good hopes and happy natures, are wishing each other, though very old, though near to the last, *la bonne année, la bonne année!* It is a bit of keenly perceived pathos, worthy of the real artist, who has given us, with such amazing flexibility, the changing thoughts and surprises of *Toto chez Tata*.

ON Saturday evening next the Lyceum will reopen, and Mr. Irving will appear in *Macbeth*, and shortly afterwards, as we announced, he will play *Louis the Eleventh*, a well-chosen part, in which he ought to succeed.

*London Assurance*, with Mrs. John Wood as Lady Gay Spanker, and Miss Lydia Foote as Grace Harkaway, is played at the St. James's Theatre until Lord Newry's English adaptation of *Les Danicheff* is ready.

AT the Court Theatre—*Brothers* having soon ceased to be attractive, in spite of excellent acting, bright dialogue, and sufficiency of stage appointments—*New Men and Old Acres* has been brought out. The impression made by the piece itself is certainly not less favourable now than it was originally at the Haymarket, while the conviction gains strength that the Court company is, for all purposes of modern light comedy, one of the strongest in London. As the heroine of the play of Mr. Taylor and Mr. Dubourg, Miss Ellen Terry has a fine and appropriate part. Always thoughtful and graceful, the actress is here, more than once, genuinely dramatic. The character of Samuel Brown, the Liverpool merchant who aspires to marry Miss Vavasour, in days presumably when such aspirations were bolder than they would be at present, is in all respects fitted to Mr. Charles Kelly, generally a bluff and straightforward and honourable stage-figure, but none the less various really because never seeking to make special display of variety and versatility. Vulgarer natures find good illustration through the art of Mrs. Stephens and Mr. Anson, albeit the efforts of these performers are now and then somewhat forced and obvious. Mr. Hare, as Sir Marmaduke, makes a neat sketch of character; and other parts are filled pleasantly by Mr. Conway, Mr. Ersser Jones, and Miss Kate Aubrey. The piece, though it had a good hearing on its first production at the Haymarket, is not so familiar but that it may advantageously be played for many nights in Sloane Square.

THE actors who, until the return of Mr. Toole to the Gaiety, were engaged at that theatre are now to be seen at the Opéra Comique in the plays which had been performed at the Gaiety.

MR. REECE has written a burlesque on *William Tell*, which will be produced in town in a week or so.

PLANCHÉ's *Invisible Prince* is the piece selected for Miss Jenny Lee's re-appearance at the Globe at Christmas.

*The Forty Thieves*—in which the Vokes family will re-appear—is to be the pantomime at Drury Lane Theatre.

A NEW play by an American author is in rehearsal at the Haymarket Theatre.

MR. IRVING's provincial tour finishes this week at Dublin, and Miss Bateman's will conclude at the same time.

THE Paris correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* has telegraphed to London a glowing account of the first representation of *L'Ami Fritz*, MM. Erckmann-Chatrian's new play at the Théâtre Français. We shall later on be able to speak of the piece. Suffice it to say at the present moment that it is reported to be without distinct political allusion; that it was, therefore, received at the Français without those hostile manifestations to which the authors of the *Story of the Plébiacite*

might well have laid themselves open; and that some freshness in the treatment and much excellence in the acting caused the curtain to fall on what would seem to be a success. The scenery is admitted to be of the best; M. Perrin, the manager of the Français, having paid more attention to stage appointments than any of his predecessors. And a very pretty effect is obtained by the singing of an old Alsatian ballad with a refrain. It is Mdlle. Reichemberg who sings the ballad, and she is said throughout the piece to be better than usual. The following verse is worth giving, as noticeable for its simplicity of means and sureness of effect:—

"En entendant fuir l'ennemi,  
Qui avait tué son bon ami,  
Le pauvre enfant cria 'Ma Mère!'  
Et tout de long tomba par terre.  
Ils ne se verraient plus:  
Il est sous terre."

And then the last lines are repeated by the chorus of reapers:—

"Ils ne se verraient plus:  
Il est sous terre."

The effect of a simple and pathetic ballad of a country-side or province, properly employed, is what the English stage has yet to learn. What have we on the modern stage to compare with this of the kind?—or with the effect in *Jean Marie*, of the Breton ballad, beginning:—

"Le brick n'eut pas sitôt sombré  
Avec ses grands mâts et ses voiles,"

and having for a refrain—

"Celui que tu croyais perdu,  
Sainte Azémar te l'a rendu."

*L'Affaire Francaur*, a new drama by Georges Petit, has been brought out at the Théâtre de Cluny, but the little theatre near the Museum from which it derives its name has long lost the vogue won for it chiefly, perhaps, by the *Inutiles* of M. Edouard Cadol. An exceptionally good ingénue, named Mdlle. Marie, is said, however, to contribute much to such chances of success as the new drama at the Théâtre de Cluny may enjoy.

## MUSIC.

### THE ENGLISH OPERA SEASON AT THE LYCEUM.

LAST Saturday, Mr. Carl Rosa concluded his second season of English Opera in London by a performance of Cherubini's *Deux Journées*. It will be worth while to take the opportunity of briefly reviewing the chief events of the past three months at the Lyceum.

In the first place, Mr. Rosa is to be warmly congratulated on having fulfilled the whole of the promises of his prospectus. It is so general a custom, at least at the Italian Operas, to announce a number of works which never come to a hearing at all that it is gratifying to meet with an *impresario* who seems to feel the obligation of keeping faith with his subscribers and the public. All the works promised by Mr. Rosa have not, it is true, been equally interesting, nor equally successful, but there has not been one which has not been from some point of view worthy of production. Foremost in interest has undoubtedly been the *Flying Dutchman* of Wagner, which has been given some twenty times, and has been the most remarkable "hit" of the season. That it should night after night have drawn a crowded house, and have even been played three or four times a week, is indicative of the curiosity and interest felt in the music of one who is certainly the best-abused composer in Europe. The continued success of the opera can only be ascribed to its intrinsic worth. It was most admirably performed, it is true; but the far less measure of support given to some other works, which were nearly, if not quite, as well represented, proves that a good rendering is not enough to keep a piece on the stage unless it derive vitality from its own merits.

Next to the *Flying Dutchman* we are inclined to regard the production in English of *Fidelio* as the most important event of Mr. Rosa's season. As this was noticed at the time in these columns it will suffice to refer to it now; but as some strictures were made on the addition of trombone parts to Beethoven's score, we are very glad to take this opportunity of saying that the error arose from incorrect parts, which, from some omission, were not noticed before the performance, and that as soon as Mr. Rosa's attention was called to them, he (as might have been expected of him) expunged the offensive additions once for all.

Among other works produced during the season must be named Adam's *Giralda*, Nicolò's *Joconde*, and Cowen's *Pauline*. The last-named opera has been so recently spoken of, that we need say nothing more of it now; the very partial success of the other two resulted from the inherent weakness of the music. Both are extremely pretty, and both were well given; but, as a whole, neither can be considered a work of the first rank.

It is, we think, a matter for regret that Mr. Rosa did not give us an opera of Mozart's during the season, especially as *Figaro* last year was not only one of the best rendered but one of the most successful works brought out at the Princess's. Why it was not repeated this year it is difficult to see. There was a talk also of *Don Giovanni*; but though this was given during Mr. Rosa's performances at the Alexandra Palace, it never came to a hearing in London. It is to be hoped that it is only deferred, not shelved. We would also suggest to Mr. Rosa that it would be well to pay more attention to the works of Auber, the prince of French opera composers. Of the more than forty works which he wrote there are many which would well pay for revival, pecuniarily as well as artistically, and which are quite within the means of such a company as Mr. Rosa's. *Fra Diavolo* was given once, and only once, during the season; but it is easy to name at least half-a-dozen of which amateurs would be delighted to hear a good rendering. There is *Le Philtre*, one of the most delightful of Auber's scores, which was at first spoken of, but subsequently replaced by *Giralda*. There can be hardly a doubt that the former work would have proved much the more attractive. Then there are *Les Diamans de la Couronne*, *Le Domino Noir*, *La Part du Diable*, *L'Ambassadrice*, *La Sirène*, of most, if not all, of which an English version already exists, and any one of which, with such a rendering as might reasonably be looked for from the artists at the Lyceum, would be certain to succeed. We trust that in the prospectus of next season Auber will have a much more prominent place.

It is needless to catalogue the stock pieces, which, in addition to those named, have completed Mr. Rosa's repertoire; we therefore turn from the works to their performance. The "star" of the company has, of course, been Mr. Santley; his performances in the *Flying Dutchman*, the *Lily of Killarney*, *Joconde*, *Pauline*, and other works in which he has appeared have been of uniform excellence; but, as has previously been remarked in these columns, he has been overworking himself, and, towards the close of the season, paid the inevitable penalty in a somewhat worn voice. We trust that judicious rest may soon restore him to the full possession of his powers. It is a question, too, whether his co-operation has not at times been in some degree prejudicial to the perfect ensemble of the performances. To secure an entirely satisfactory result he ought to be supported only by artists of his own calibre, and it cannot be said that this was always the case.

Mdlle. Torriani has steadily gained in public favour during the season, and deservedly so. Her greatest successes have been precisely in those parts which made most demands upon her—Senta in the *Flying Dutchman*, and Leonora in *Fidelio*. The remarkable progress made by Miss Julia

Gaylord in the past twelve months deserves special mention. Her singing is steadily improving, and as an actress she is one of the very best members of the company. Another young lady should also be named—Miss Giulia Warwick, a *débutante*, who, though seldom heard, proved herself possessed of great ability, and gave evidence of very careful training. Mdlle. Ida Corani, who was heard in *Giralda* and *Joconde*, is an excellent singer, but hardly so successful on the stage as in the concert-room.

Of the gentlemen, Mr. F. Packard showed (especially as Florestan in *Fidelio*) a marked improvement on last year; his future will be watched with interest. Mr. F. H. Colli, who might have been heard oftener with advantage, fully sustained his reputation both as a singer and an actor. The rest of the company, whose names will be familiar to our readers, were uniformly good; and both orchestra and chorus were no less excellent than last year. The mounting of the various operas also left little or nothing to desire; while the energy of Mr. Rosa himself conducted, perhaps more than anything else, to the success which has attended his efforts. He may, on the whole, be heartily congratulated upon his second season. EBENEZER PROUT.

THE greater part of last Saturday's concert at the Crystal Palace was occupied with the performance of Sullivan's cantata, "On Shore and Sea." This work was written for the opening of the International Exhibition of 1871, and was performed on May 1 of that year in the Albert Hall. Of the four pieces composed for the occasion only one (M. Gounod's "Gallia") has been frequently heard since. Mr. Sullivan's cantata is, like everything from his pen, thoroughly well written, and most effectively scored; but *pièces d'occasion* are seldom good specimens of their composers, and we are not inclined to consider "On Shore and Sea" an exception to the rule. The performance was extremely good; the solo parts were sustained by Mdlle. Lemmens-Sherrington and Mr. Wadmore; while the Crystal Palace choir was (as on every previous occasion of its being heard during this season), most satisfactory. We heartily congratulate Mr. Manns on the improvement he has secured in this department. Meyerbeer's interesting, but very seldom heard, overture to *Struensee* opened, and Beethoven's *Leonora* overture (No. 3) concluded the concert. Herr Wilhelmj gave a splendid rendering of Bach's Chaconne and Ernst's Fantasia on Hungarian airs; and the vocalists each contributed one song. To-day Liszt's symphonic poem "Mazeppa" is to be produced for the first time in England; and Miss Anna Mehlig is to play Hiller's concerto in F sharp minor.

AFTER our going to press last week, the production of *Alceste* at the Crystal Palace, which we announced for Thursday, was postponed. It is now fixed for Tuesday next, with the following cast:—*Alceste*, Miss Emily Cross; *Admetus*, Mr. Arthur Mathison; *Phères*, Mr. Edmund Leathes; *Hercules*, Mr. W. Rignold; *Apollo*, Mr. Barnes; *Thanatos*, Mr. Moxon; *Medon*, Mr. Bruton Robins. The choruses, composed by Mr. Henry Gadsby, will be sung by a choir of forty male voices, under the direction of Mr. W. Gadsby.

THE programme of Mr. Dannreuther's chamber concert, on the 30th ult., comprised Schumann's *Fantasia-Stücke*, Op. 88, for piano, violin, and violoncello; the same composer's piano quartet, Op. 47; Liszt's "Concert pathétique" for two pianos; violoncello solos by Saint-Saëns and Popper, and three songs by Hector Berlioz.

THE eighth Trial of New Compositions by the Musical Artists' Society takes place this evening at the Royal Academy of Music, Hanover Square. The programme includes two sonatas for piano and violin, by Messrs. W. H. Holmes and F.

Davenport; a sonata for piano and violoncello, by E. H. Thorne; and smaller vocal and instrumental pieces by Miss Prescott and Messrs. G. F. Gear, W. H. Cummings, F. E. Barnes, C. H. Hullett, C. E. Stephens, W. H. Longhurst, C. Gardner, H. Baumer, and D. Hume.

M. ALFRED DUBOIS DE BEAUCHESNE, who was secretary to the Paris Conservatoire during the directorships of Cherubini and Auber, from 1828 to 1870, has just died in Paris at the age of seventy-two.

THE Leipzig Wagner-Verein, in order to further the acquaintance of musicians and the public with the *Ring des Nibelungen*, will hold, during the ensuing six months, fortnightly meetings, at which the work will be musically illustrated, and lectures will also be given upon it. It is said that the scheme is receiving warm support.

DR. FRANZ WITT, of Landshut in Bavaria, has offered a prize of 300 marks (15*l.*) for the best essay on Consecutive Fifths and Octaves; the reason of their prohibition by the old writers on music, and the views of modern theorists on the subject. The essays are to be sent in by Jan. 1, 1878; and the umpires will be Messrs. Albert Hahn, Witt, Reissmann, W. Rust and Tappert.

NICOLAI'S *Merry Wives of Windsor* was performed in Berlin for the hundredth time on the 19th ult.

THE success of Madame Essipoff in America is said to be enormous.

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